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THURSDAY DECEMBER 20TH, 2018

The GEM wishes all its readers , advertisers and contributors a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - our next edition will be January 3, 2019.

Cricket club mourns 'one of its greatest' as John Bevan passes away

COWBRIDGE Cricket Club lost one of its greatest players when John Bevan died last week

'JB' – as he was universally known – joined the club in 1957 and played for the 1st XI for 26 consecutive seasons.

He took well in excess of a thousand wickets and recorded a best bowling performance of 9/14 against Cardiff High School Old Boys.

He also captained the Cowbridge Club on two occasions: 1968 and 1980.

John Bevan was a keen competitor but played the game to the highest standards of the spirit of cricket.

After his retirement, John was awarded the honour of being made an Honorary Life Vice President of the club at the 175th anniversary dinner in 2015.

John's son Martyn played cricket for Cowbridge and was a fine rugby full back.

John's funeral will be held at Bridgend Crematorium on Thursday, December 27 at 11am.

Club ties would be preferred.

JRB

Scouts helped by supermarket scheme

ABOVE:
The giant-sized smiles of members of Cowbridge Scout Group as they take receipt of their giant-sized cheque say it all.

COWBRIDGE Scout Group would like to thank The Co-op for selecting us as one of their chosen charities between October 2017-18 for members to support.

Pictured are members from the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and the leadership team who attended the Cowbridge Co-op to receive a cheque for £4,372.02.

A spokesperson for the scout troop said that the money is going to be spent on a new floor in the Scout hall.

Many thanks to everyone who selected us as their chosen charity.

The three charities that people are currently able to select are:

Cowbridge History Society, who want to buy a computer system to make the Cowbridge digital archive of local history available for public use; *Cylch Meithrin Llaniltyd Fawr* who want to create an educational outdoor play area for children aged 2-4, and *Cowbridge RFC mini and junior section*, who want to buy modern training equipment so their children can enjoy activities in safety.

To find out how you can support one of the charities above, go the *www.co-op.co.uk/membership* or ask in store.

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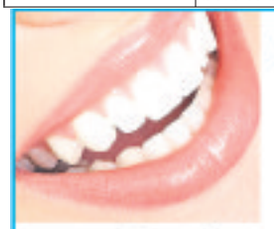
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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address, contact telephone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

'A lucky break'

ON the morning of December 4, while walking my neighbour's boisterous retriever, I slipped, fell, and broke my ankle near the tennis courts in Craig Penllyn.

Although I was with a friend at the time, unfortunately she did not know the area. Fortunately, another dog walker came to my assistance and called an ambulance.

The call had not been graded a life or death emergency, so I prepared myself for the wait.

Another resident saw me lying on the wet grass and offered me some blankets. He said he would get the help of a neighbour, who just happened to be a consultant surgeon in Orthopaedics – what are the chances of that?

He checked my wound and said he would take me to hospital himself. He had called on the assistance of two burly farmers who turned up on quad bikes to help him get me into his vehicle.

At that moment, the ambulance turned up. The ambulance technicians loaded me onto the ambulance and with the assistance of gas and air, the kindly consultant pulled my ankle back into its rightful position.

I was whisked off to hospital and after a lengthy op, now have several plates and pins in my ankle.

I have since found out that the consultant was due to take his wife out for lunch that day. The fact he was prepared to time out and delay his day for me, words cannot express.

I will be eternally grateful for his help that morning and can I just say a massive thank you to all the people who came to my aid and offered their help; your kindness was so appreciated.

It's never a good time to fall and injure yourself, but that morning, all things considered, I think I had a lucky break.

Sue Willmott, Vale of Glamorgan.

'Town still needs a post office'

I am a landlord in Cowbridge, and I have great concerns that we do not have a Post Office in the town to cope with normal day-to-day demands.

One of my tenants, who is in her 90th year, walks with the aid of a Zimmer and has been renting with me for over 40 years, had to travel by bus to Bridgend to post her Christmas cards.

I am dismayed that in 2018 with Cowbridge's ever-growing population, there is no Post Office.

J T Thomas, Cowbridge.

'Local history is being lost to Hafod's wrecking ball'

HAVING read the Aberthin Road resident's letter in the November 29 edition concerning the proposed redevelopment of the former Girls High School building in Cowbridge, there appears to be a total disregard for old buildings whenever Hafod Housing Association express an interest in redeveloping sites for residential use.

There is a similarity to when the same company expressed its interests in the Theatre Royal Cinema in Barry when it closed.

The intention is to knock down the school building with no retention of façade or stonework. Hafod representatives were questioned why at least the cinema's façade could not be kept as part of the new Extracare redevelopment and the response received was that it would be too costly.

Hafod's proposed new development would be higher than the current [old] school building, as was the Extracare facility compared to the cinema. The school's front landmark yew tree would be felled; the mosaic flooring work fronting the cinema entrance was ripped up and lost forever.

As for the meeting, for those concerned about the school's proposed redevelopment, this also happened for the Theatre Royal site, on a weekday December date when given the time of year, something of this nature may not always be foremost in people's minds.

In Barry, St Paul's Church and hall could be demolished, if a proposed future planning application from Hafod for residential use is submitted and granted. Should this happen, yet another landmark building will become just a part of history.

When it comes to residential development progression, nothing seems to stand in its way.

Paul Sutton, Barry

The GEM put these comments to Hafod Housing. Matthew Davies, director of investment and growth at Hafod said: "Over the years, we have worked in partnership with numerous local authorities (including the Vale) to purchase redundant buildings that unfortunately have fallen into disrepair due to them having no further economic or cultural use or value for the local community.

"As is often the case, these buildings remain vacant for many years, resulting in them being targeted by vandals and thieves, and contributing to general anti-social behaviour. "This can result in structures being exposed to the elements and becoming dilapidated, dangerous structures that are un-economic to bring back into use.

"Where possible we would seek to retain a structure for re-use, however this needs to be balanced with the benefit the structure brings to the proposed development. Sometimes the existing buildings restrict what we are able to provide in meeting local needs.

"As seen with the redevelopment of the former Theatre Royal in Barry, a derelict, vandalised, asbestos-ridden building of limited architectural value was replaced with Extracare housing, which not only serves the needs of the residents but also serves the needs of the wider community, with various interest groups also making use of the building facilities and small independent businesses being housed within the building."

The GEM checks in for regular hospital appointment!

A couple of years ago, the Princess of Wales Hospital main entrance was going through a refit, which meant the loss of its newspaper shop.

Patients and visitors felt the loss but, one Thursday afternoon a volunteer at the hospital's main information desk had the bright idea to ring The GEM office in Cowbridge and ask if they could help by providing a few copies of The GEM for patients, until the newspaper shop re-opened.

Local news is so important especially for the elderly or long stay patients. The GEM newspaper was provided the following week with copies covering Bridgend, Porthcawl, Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Barry. As we come to the end of 2018, every Thursday a delivery of our newspaper is still brought to the foyer of the hospital and gratefully received.

A very big thank you from the volunteers at Princess of Wales Hospital.

Anne Marie Winslade, Llantwit Major.

Editor's note: It's our pleasure Anne Marie!

'Road changes need to happen'

I would like to reply to the letter from Glynis Lloyd, Tredodridge (GEM, December 20) regarding the suggestion that a new road should not be built to reduce congestion at Culverhouse Cross.

The traffic on the A4040 every morning and evening is moving at a snail's pace passing many residential homes, and also four schools; ie Whitmore High school, Colcot Primary School (including a Flying Start nursery), Pencoedtre High school and Wenvoe Primary School. Does that not mean our children's schools and our homes are being polluted every day by traffic pollution? Living in a property on Port Road East for the past 30 years I have seen the traffic levels increase dramatically.

To suggest that the new road is purely to help commerce and commuters is frankly an insult to all the people who live along this route, who are entitled to breathe fresh air along with people who are fortunate enough to own property in the Vale away from this area.

As noted, Wales has a Future Generations Act to protect children from harm which is to protect all the children in Wales from harm.

It is therefore essential that changes need to happen; the proposed new road from the A48 to the M4 which will divert some of the traffic and reduce congestion, should be a priority.

Gillian Bishop, Barry.

Warm welcome for school

A report, presented to the Vale Council's cabinet on December 17, seeking approval to consult stakeholders on a proposal to transfer Ysgol Sant Baruc to a newly-constructed 420 place school building on the Barry Waterfront, is arguably one of the most significant in the history of Welsh medium education in the Vale and the wider region.

By moving and, over time, expanding an existing and very successful Welsh medium primary school,it offers the best opportunity to continue to see growth in demand, a growth that will continue to be driven overwhelmingly by non-Welsh speaking parents.

It will represent a major contribution towards meeting Welsh Government targets, especially the one to increase, by a third, the number of Welsh medium places by 2030.

The standard of Welsh medium education is one of many special features of the Barry area, indeed a key factor in my family moving here a couple of years ago.

I am very excited at the prospect of something very special being created on the Waterfront and hundreds more receiving a wonderful start in life, with Barry showing the rest of urban Wales that the Welsh language can be a central building block of new housing developments.

Mark Bowen, Barry

Thanks to 'principled' Rhoose councillor

I'D like to add to the chorus of those thanking Matt Lloyd following his resignation from the council.

His robust opposition to the planned closure of Llancarfan Primary School gave voice to the legitimate concerns and arguments of people in Rhoose, Llancarfan and surrounding areas.

Mr Lloyd's belief that the decision to close the school was pre-determined is hugely damning of his former colleagues in the cabinet and is what many people thought all along.

In these cynical times it is admirable that an elected member should put sound judgement and principle before personal ambition and party loyalty, but we have been robbed of one of our brightest and best councillors.

Whatever your political affiliation, Mr Lloyd's departure is a loss to the Vale. We desperately need local representatives of his calibre and integrity.

All councillors, especially those in the Conservative group, should reflect on this sorry episode and decide whether they want to be complicit in pushing through a flawed and deeply unpopular proposal.

When Llancarfan Primary finally closes in July 2021, just months ahead of the next local elections, the anger and frustration felt locally will still be fresh in the memory.

Jim Barratt, Llancarfan.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL DECEMBER 27)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
20 Thur	04.12	8.9	16.34	9.1
21 Fri	04.59	9.3	17.23	9.6
22 Sat	05.47	9.8	18.13	9.9
23 Sun	06.32	10.1	18.58	10.2
24 Mon	07.12	10.3	19.46	10.4
25 Tues	08.07	10.3	20.34	10.2
26 Wed	08.54	10.1	21.24	9.9
27 Thur	09.46	9.8	22.13	9.5

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Website: www.ipso.co.uk. Tel: 0300 123 2220.
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Y Bont Faen pupils showcase their festive repertoire!

PUPILS at Y Bont Faen Primary have been singing their hearts out around Cowbridge recently.

The school has two singing groups: Mini Melodies (for year-1 pupils) and Rockin' Melodies (for pupils in years 2-6) who have performed in numerous festive performances this year, including the Reindeer Parade and the Candlelight Service at the United Free Church.

Mrs Cotterell and Mrs Bolton wish to thank all the children for their fantastic efforts, their parents and the community of Cowbridge for all their support. Special thanks to HRT, Tesco and the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Cllr Terry Williams, pictured with the children at the town hall.

Wurzels raise the roof for Prostate Cymru charity

Lyn Murray, trustee of the Prostate Cymru charity, receiving the cheque from Brian Harries, Pembrokeshire County Show president.

LYN Murray from Cowbridge, who founded the charity Prostate Cymru with her late husband Ray Murray and the charity's chairman Andy Thomas (also a Cowbridge resident), was the representative for the charity in Haverfordwest recently.

Lyn collected a cheque on behalf of Prostate Cymru for £10,000 at the President's Ball of the Pembrokeshire Agricultural Society.

The money was raised at an event in the summer when all the combine harvesters in west Wales were parked up for the night when 800 farmers and friends packed into the County Showground for a successful evening headlined by the legendary Wurzels.

Lyn has been instrumental this year in establishing a Friends Group in Carmarthenshire where she lives, and is looking to establish a Ladies Group of Supporters for Prostate Cymru in the Vale.

U3A's Christmas treat

ABOUT 130 people attended the Cowbridge U3A December meeting, held in the Christmas tree-bedecked Holy Cross Church where they were entertained by a five-piece group from Tongwynlais Temperance Band.

The band was founded in 1888 by a few enthusiasts meeting in the home of a Tongwynlais resident.

There was a thriving temperance movement in the village at the time and, following generous donations from local gentry, the Tongwynlais Temperance Silver Band was born.

The band moved out of Tongwynlais as recently as 2008 and is now based in Llandaff North, where it comprises around 25 musicians. It is one of the UK's leading brass ensembles, with numerous appearances at the National Brass Band Championship Finals held in the Albert Hall.

The five young instrumentalists, all from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, played a selection of traditional Christmas carols, such as 'O Come, All Ye Faithful', 'Good King Wenceslas', 'The First Noel' as well as tunes focusing on more secular festive themes.

These included 'Jingle Bells' and 'Frosty the Snowman'. There were 31 musical pieces in total. The conclusion of the entertainment was, aptly, 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas'.

Unfortunately, the popular refreshments of mince pies, stollen and mulled wine which were then enjoyed didn't quite embrace the temperance theme of the afternoon!

The next Cowbridge U3A meeting will be a talk entitled 'Head Hunters and Cannibals: five years in the Solomon Islands' by Rob Cumbes at 2pm on Wednesday, January 9, in Cowbridge Town Hall. Visitors are welcome; there is a small fee, which includes refreshments. See *www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge*.

SPM

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Samantha B

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COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

News and views from Nancy Davidge, Tynewydd, Llangan. 01656 860303.

LLANGAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

THE children performed at their concert on December 11 with much enthusiasm, to the delight of their parents and invited visitors.

On December 18, the foundation phase pupils performed 'Mid Wife Crisis' and KS2 performed 'A Christmas Carol'.

The school is having a new play area installed in the grounds, thanks to the Friends of Llangan. The new equipment will include a jungle den pergola and story telling chair.

The school is grateful to the Friends who have raised funds for the project.

SARON CHAPEL, TREOES

A Christingle service will take place at Saron on December 24 at 6pm when a warm welcome is extended to everyone.

ST MARY HILL CHURCH

A Christmas Day service takes place at St Mary's at 11.15am; all welcome.

A very happy Christmas and a happy and peaceful new year.

Rotary members help out Santa on his Christmas tour of Cowbridge

DESPITE some wet and windy weather, Cowbridge Rotary's Santa Sleigh has completed it Christmas schedule on time, and broken its Christmas fundraising for charities record in the process.

Santa, his trustee reindeer Rudolph, and his hardworking elves, have been visiting villages in and around the town over the past two weeks, with the tour culminating in a Christmas grotto event on December 15.

Dozens of children of all ages took the opportunity to meet Santa and slip him their last-minute wish lists, donating to the Cowbridge Rotary collection along the way.

The result has been a £3,100-boost to Cowbridge Rotary's Charity pot, which will be used to support a range of good causes, including this year's three nominated charities:

• Y Bont – enabling children with a cisability to fulfil their potential

• Samaritans – let's talk

• Crisis – together we will end homelessness

Cowbridge Rotary president Michael Long said: "Every year, we are amazed by the support and generosity of people in Cowbridge and the Vale, and I thank everyone for continuing to help us help others in need. I would also like to thank Caffé Nero in Cowbridge, which allowed us to land Santa's sleigh at the café.

"We are thrilled to have topped our previous total raised on the Christmas Santa Sleigh and much of the success has been down to the Herculean efforts of our club members, responsible for maintaining Santa's Sleigh year on year, turning out in the cold and rain to collect donations and, on Saturday, to make the children and families feel so welcome in visiting our Cowbridge Rotary Santa's grotto.

"I would also like to give a big 'thank you' to all those people who sent us such a fabulous collection of photographs for our 'Selfies with Santa' competition. The entries can be viewed at www.cowbridgerotary.club or on the club notice board outside the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge. The winner of the selfie competition will be announced on the Cowbridge Rotary website on Christmas Eve, and prize awarded in the New Year."

ML

Car parking charges decision in new year

THE Vale Council will decide what action should be taken on car parking charges in the new year. A public consultation was held in the autumn.

Vale councillor Gwyn John told The GEM: "The consultation on car parking charges ended on September 28 and a joint scrutiny meeting in October was shown the results of the consultation, which showed that 80 per cent of the residents of Llantwit Major voted against car parking charges.

"It is expected that the report will now show up in the new year. Residents can be assured that Llantwit First Independent Councillors will take up the challenge to oppose all charges aimed at Llantwit Major."

Havard leads Ramblers along Dragon's Back

ROBIN and his spaniel Pepper, along with seven companions from Penarth and District Ramblers, made their way to Pengenffordd to meet Havard, a local resident and friend of Robin's.

He led them up through Castell Dinas to Y Grib, or the Dragon's Back as it is nicknamed, because of its undulating shape against the skyline.

Climbing through wet and slippery fields after a week of heavy rainfall, they stopped at the ruined Castell Dinas at a height of 405m, where Havard gave an interesting talk on its history. Originally an Iron Age hillfort, the castle was built by the Normans and resisted very troubled times until it was destroyed by the followers of Owain Glyndwr in the early 15th century.

Hauling themselves up the rocky mountainside at Y Grib rewarded them with surrounding views across the Rhiangoll Valley to the large hump of Mynydd Troed, but the central Brecon Beacons were submerged in cloud.

Reaching a cairn, Havard left the group under the leadership of Robin and they climbed to Pen y Manllwyn before heading south along the ridge to the 810m Waun Fach. They descended to Pen Trumau for lunch, battling against a strong, cold headwind to find shelter.

With numb fingers, they set off westwards, slithering down a muddy track to the valley bottom to join a road. The pathway they were due to follow had become a raging stream due to an overflowing ford. Several of the group managed to cross while the rest chickened out and followed the road back to the car park of the Dragon's Back Pub.

The Ramblers annual Festival of Winter Walks begins on December 22 through Christmas and New Year until January 6. Everyone is welcome, including non-members.

For more information of forthcoming walks, visit www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com and Facebook; programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

Joy Strangward

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GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (OXEN LANE, LLANMAES) (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) 2019

1. Ar 18 Rhagfyr 2018, gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 Orchymyn a fydd yn gorfodi'r hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod:
2. Gelwir y Gorchymyn yn "Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Oxen Lane, Llanmaes) (Cau Ffordd) (Dros Dro)" 2019 a ddaw i rym ar 2 Ionawr 2018.

ATODLEN 1

Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad: Y ffordd i'w chau yw'r lôn a adnabyddir yn lleol fel Oxen Lane Llanmaes o Fferm Froglands Llanmaes at gefn Happy Jakes New Barn

Rheswm: I alluogi cwblhau gwaith adeiladu ar y ffordd fynediad ogleddol newydd.

Hyd: O 8.00am ar 2 Ionawr 2019 tan 23.59pm ar 31 Gorffennaf 2019

Llwybr Arall: Bydd gwyriadau lleol wedi'u harwyddo ar waith trwy Picketston a Llanmaes

DS: Ni fydd mynediad i wasanaethau argyfwng. Bydd mynediad i'r cae ar gael i ffermwyr.

Dyddiedig 20 Rhagfyr 2019
Cyfarwyddwr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (OXEN LANE, LLANMAES) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2019

1. On 18th December 2018 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:
2. The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Oxen Lane, Llanmaes) (Road Closure) (Temporary) Order" 2019 and will come into force on 2nd January 2019.

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location: The road to be closed is the Lane known locally as Oxen Lane Llanmaes from Froglands Farm Llanmaes to the rear of Happy Jakes New Barn

Reason: To allow for the new northern access road construction works to be undertaken.

Duration: From 8.00am on 2nd January 2019 until 23.59pm on 31st July 2019

Alt. Route: Local signed diversions will be in place via Picketston and Llanmaes

NB: No Access will be provided for emergency services. Field access will be available to Farmer.

Dated this 20th day of December 2019.
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

Convictions prompt county lines warning

Fouad Cilmi.

Saed Saeed

COUNTY lines gang members caught with drugs worth thousands in a south Wales street were jailed at Cardiff Crown Court last Thursday (December 13).

Saed Saeed, from Cardiff, and Fouad Cilmi, from Bristol, were arrested on August 8 after being stopped by armed officers. They were driving along Llantrisant Road, Beddau in a black Vauxhall Astra when officers spotted them and began to follow.

As the vehicle turned into Cwrt Castellau officers made their approach and signalled for them for them to stop. Saed Saeed tried to run away but was caught nearby, as was Cilmi, and both were taken into custody.

Thirty-one wraps of heroin, five wraps of crack cocaine and over a thousand pounds in cash was seized from their vehicle. The drugs had a street value of up to £10,000.

Saeed pleaded guilty to possessing class A drugs with intent to supply at an earlier court appearance and Cilmi pleaded guilty to the same charges on the morning of his trial.

The men were sentenced together at Cardiff Crown Court on December 13 - Saeed was sentenced to three years and Cilmi was sentenced to 44 months.

Detective Sergeant Tim Jones said: "The County Lines threat is very real and there is a drugs market in the valleys which organised gangs will always try to capitalise on. Generally speaking the gangs operate with a cold disposition for manipulating the most vulnerable members of our communities to generate money from selling drugs, and they have a propensity for violence.

"But if communities make a stand against this criminality by sharing information and reporting their suspicions this can be stopped – strong messages such as this one make it clear that they won't be tolerated by valleys communities who work with South Wales Police. "

Anybody who suspects drug dealing is urged to contact South Wales Police via 101 or they can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

Marathon man to run for Malawi

A LOCAL man will run the London Marathon next April to help fund the work of a health clinic in Malawi.

Daniel Nadzo, a web designer, is known in Barry and Bridgend for his fundraising work. He has already been involved in various charity events to help health projects in Africa, including 13 trips to Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and the Welsh Three Peaks Challenge.

He said: "I've won a place on the London Marathon on April 28 and hope people and companies will sponsor me in raising money for the River Africa charity and its work with a reproductive health club on Chisi Island.

"I believe that no young girl should miss school or face abject poverty due to early pregnancy or a sexually transmitted disease such as HIV or AIDS. If that does happen, they face a future with no hope."

Mr Nadzo visited Chisi Island in 2015 and 2017 to see how the project was progressing and find out what support it needed.

He said: "I spoke to teachers, parents, community leaders and the children themselves. I fully appreciated their plight and was eager to help by raising as much money as possible for the local people. Around 30 girls are forced to abandon school every year due to early pregnancies. This keeps them and their families pinned down by poverty. The girls are left vulnerable and exposed, but this state of affairs is preventable."

He has uploaded a film, 'Reproductive health club Chisi Island', on YouTube for people to watch.

He is already in training for the marathon: "Last week was my first week of serious training. I did the Paris marathon last year so I'm used to the distance. I'm doing regular gym sessions and on Sundays, I run at Margam Park."

Mr Nadzo has 18 sponsorship slots on his London Marathon running vest which he hopes local companies will buy up which are £190 a small slot, £250 the large one, but if someone wants to offer more, he stresses it is all for a good cause.

For more information, email Mr Nadzo at daniel@riverafrica.org.

TC

Severn tolls end

Drivers could travel for free across both the Prince of Wales Bridge and original Severn Crossing for the first time in 52 years from December 17.

The abolition of the tolls, following an announcement by the UK Government last year, comes as thousands of people are expected to make their journeys home for the festive period.

The tolls' removal, after some 50 years, will save regular commuters around £1,400 per year and provide an estimated annual boost of over £100 million for the Welsh economy. Businesses will also benefit from strengthened links between communities ranging from west Wales to the south west of England by making it easier for consumers and employees to cross the border.

Tolls have been charged on the Severn Crossings since 1966, and the final driver to pay to cross over from England to Wales was the Welsh Secretary and Vale MP, Alun Cairns.

Mr Cairns said: "The end of the tolls is a major milestone for the economies of south Wales and south west of England, and will remove historic barriers between communities.

Scrapping the tolls means an end to generations of people from the Vale paying to simply cross the border, and delivering this has been one of my key aims as Welsh Secretary.

"A week before Christmas drivers from Barry and the Vale will no longer have to pay every time they cross the border, meaning more money in their pockets, helping them with the cost of living and leaving them with and more cash to spend in their local areas."

AS

More trees planted at the Knap

TREES have been planted and nest boxes installed in Knap Gardens.

The work was carried out by Barry Action For Nature (BAFN), which had received a donation of a monkey puzzle tree from the Dutch Garden Centre.

The group also planted a cedar tree, a strawberry tree, two Scots pines, two yew trees and erected eight nest boxes.

New Year's Day swim renamed

TY Hafan, the children's hospice in Wales, will soon be asking people to take the plunge to help life-limited children and their families.

The annual Barry Island New Year's Day Swim takes place in the icy waters off the town's Whitmore Bay.

This year, it has been renamed the 'Barry Island New Year's Day Dip' and participants will be raising funds for the hospice.

The New Year's Day Swim began as a dare between Barry resident Rob Salter and his friends 35 years ago, but over the years has grown in fame and popularity and now hundreds of people brave the chilly channel waters on January 1, watched by hundreds of spectators from the relative warmth of the promenade.

"We're delighted to be adopting the Swim – now the Dip - and we thank Rob Salter for handing over the reins to us," said Sara Webber of Tŷ Hafan.

"We really hope we can continue to grow this wonderful event while raising Sara explained: "The format of the day will be much the same as previous years. Participants can either pre-register free of charge for the event by visiting our website, or they can register on the day at one of our welcome points, located at the Western end of the promenade.

"Registration is free, but we will be asking everyone for an optional donation of £5 which will entitle them to a medal and a hot drink. We'd be really grateful if they could also try to fundraise for Tŷ Hafan in advance. Visit our website to find out how.

"Check in opens at 11am, and everyone gets in the water at 12 noon. Dippers can come along in fancy dress if they'd like, and there will be a prize for the best fancy dress costume.

"The usual 'rules' will apply: to fully comply with tradition, you need to run in, dunk under three times and run out, then repeat twice more, but we don't make you do this – simply entering the water is brave, in our opinion".

For more information, visit www.tyhafan.org/newyearsdaydip.

Oak Field Primary School pupils sparkle and shine

IT was 'Angels and Kisses' at the Oak Field Christmas Nativity concerts this week.

The whole of the Oak Field community gathered together to celebrate the Christmas festivities. The children worked hard throughout the school, singing at the tops of their voices to entertain their families.

ND

For all the latest news from your area over the festive season visit our website - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Consultation to launch as Council mulls a major change to school admissions policy

THE Vale Council is considering a major change to the secondary school admissions procedure.

Oversubscribed secondary schools would no longer use feeder primary schools as criteria for offering pupils a place from the 2020/21 school year if the plans are approved.

Instead, pupils living in the school's catchment area would be given higher priority.

Cllr Bob Penrose, cabinet member for learning and culture, told the council's cabinet on December 17: "This will give priority to pupils living in the area to gain a place at their local school."

A consultation will be held on the changes from January 14 to February 22 and the council is also proposing to review school catchment areas during 2019/20.

A report to the cabinet stated: "The council is considering a change to the admission arrangements and oversubscription criteria for secondary schools whereby those living in a school catchment area will be a high priority for admission to a school in the event of oversubscription.

"The proposed change will prioritise those living in a school's catchment area and remove the feeder primary school as an oversubscription criterion.

"This will give priority to pupils living in an area to gain a place in their local school."

Matt Discombe,
Local democracy reporter

'Alarming increase could affect Vale pensioners'

A Barry man is concerned that he and many other pensioners in the town may have to start paying for their fitted alarms.

David Roche, who lives in Pontalun Close, said his flat is fitted with a Telecare Emergency Alarm. The cost of the alarm is £4.50 a week and until now, he has paid this and was reimbursed with a credit on his rent account.

He has now been informed in his annual rent increase letter that from February 2019, it will be payable but the exact figure has not been confirmed.

Mr Roche said the measure would place an extra burden on pensioners.

"It could make the difference as to whether people put on their heating or not. The basic old age pension is not a great deal and there are annual rent increases. Pensioners are being squeezed from both sides.

"I wonder how many other flats in Barry are fitted with similar alarms and how many people it will affect," said Mr Roche.

Cllr Andrew Parker, Vale Council Cabinet member for housing and building services, said: "The cost of monitoring the emergency alarms for existing tenants will continue to be funded by the council through the 'supporting people programme grant' received from Welsh Government and credited to their rent accounts in the same way as before.

"From April, however, tenants will be required to contribute to the separate cost of maintaining the emergency alarm in their home.

"The council is mindful that vulnerable tenants who have emergency alarms as a condition of their tenancy are on a limited income and is committed to ensuring that the charge levied is kept as low as possible.

"Notification of the amount of the charge will be included in rent increase letters which will be sent to tenants in February."

Council's help for refugees has been welcomed

THE Vale Council's continued support for Syrian refugee families has been welcomed by Cllr Ian Johnson.

In the Vale Council's full meeting in December, Cllr Johnson asked the Vale Council about progress in providing support for families coming to Wales as part of the 'Syrian Vulnerable People's Resettlement Scheme'.

He was told the Vale Council had resettled 11 families in the past four years, and that preparations were currently being made for a 12th family to move to the area.

The Plaid Cymru councillor said: "December 2018 is the 70th anniversary of the signing of the UN Declaration of Human Rights. It's important that we continue to play our role in helping families have a new, safer and better life, and I am pleased that the Vale Council have confirmed that they will continue to provide support to Syrian families coming to Wales."

Florist's award success stems from hard work

THE owner of a Barry town centre florist has clinched an Innovation and Excellence Award as her business continues to flourish.

Wendy O'Connor runs Bluebells Florist on Thompson Street and has received recognition for "... demonstrating forward thinking" in her industry.

In the age of online shopping, Ms O'Connor's store is an example of one that is performing well in the middle of town.

Ms O'Connor said: "Business is very good here – the feedback from customers is excellent. The council supports a number of town centre events throughout the year and tries to work with traders to boost business.

"The Christmas switch-on event was really good for us.

"All these events help, and it also helps if all the traders get involved and participate; we can help each other out."

A Vale Council spokesperson said: "The council is keen that shop owners work together towards a common aim of improving the town centre and has supported the creation of a traders group.

"There is also the possibility of establishing a 'business bmprovement district' (BID) in Barry, with traders considering whether this is something they want to pursue."

"At the last meeting I went to about the BID, the concept was explained really well and I found it much easier to understand after that," said Ms O'Connor.

Rhoose by-election set for February

A by-election is likely to take place for the Rhoose Ward on Thursday, February 14.

It follows the resignation of Conservative councillor Matt Lloyd who resigned from the Vale Council because of plans to close Llancarfan School.

The Vale Council says a 'casual vacancy notice' will be displayed on December 24 and it is anticipated a by-election will take place on February 14.

TC

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MON 31st Dec 10am-5.00pm. TUES 1st Jan 10am-5.30pm.
TUES 2nd Jan Normal Opening Hours

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Black bag fly-tipping goes up in the Vale

FLY-TIPPING of black bags in the Vale has reportedly increased since the council started collecting two bags per home every fortnight.

A total of 99 fly-tipped black bags were reported to the Vale Council between September – when the new policy was introduced – and November.

That was an increase from the 61 fly-tipped black bags reported in the three months leading up to September.

The council has said there were 107 fly-tipped black bags reported between September and November 2017, eight more than the three months following September this year.

Cllr Geoff Cox, cabinet member for neighbourhood services and transport, said it was too early to draw any conclusions about the effect on fly-tipping the new black bags policy has had.

He said excess black bags left uncollected outside people's properties are unlikely to be recorded as fly-tipping.

Cllr Cox told a full council meeting on December 12: "The general levels of compliance with the two bag rule have been excellent.

"In the three months since the introduction of the scheme, our officers have only reported 117 incidences of residents who have breached the rule on more than one occasion."

He added that council officers are taking action against those 117 residents.

The council has also said the number of black rubbish bags being collected in the Vale has gone down by 31 per cent since the two bags per fortnight rule was implemented.

It has also led to an 8 per cent increase in kerbside recycling, and a 19 per cent rise in food waste recycling, according to council figures.

Over Christmas and New Year the black bags restrictions will not apply.

Matt Discombe
Local democracy reporter

Third-agers around the table for Christmas lunch

CARDIFF Round Table and Age Connects Cardiff and the Vale (ACCATV) hosted 60 senior citizens to a Christmas lunch at the Holiday Inn, Cardiff, last week.

Karen Steele of ACCATV said: "We are grateful to Cardiff Round Table, which has been hosting this event with us for the last six years, and it is one that is much anticipated by those who are able to attend."

Lighting up Llancarfan!

ABOVE: Competition winner Eva Wong switched on the lights.

RIGHT: The Llancarfan village Christmas tree.

AN evening of carol singing and celebration started the Christmas festivities at Llancarfan on Sunday, December 9 when more than 100 villagers attended the lighting of the Llancarfan Christmas tree.

Martyn Hughes started the event and guest of honour Eva Wong, the winner of Llancarfan Primary School's painting competition, flicked the switch on the Christmas tree that lit up the evening sky.

Rhi and Jim from The Fox and Hounds provided the mulled wine and mince pies and favourite carols were sung around the tree.

Thanks go to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening; Max, Matty, Mike, Rich and John for putting up the tree; the Osborne family who have provided the power to the lights again this year and to Rhi and Jim for hosting everyone back at the Fox & Hounds after the lighting ceremony had finished. Last, but certainly not least, we'd like to thank Edward Thomas and family for allowing us to use their equipment to help get the tree and lights in place.

John Ford

Veteran AM's new position

VALE AM Jane Hutt was appointed by the new First Minister Mark Drakeford as Chief Whip and Deputy Minister in his office last week.

She will support him in the central functions and responsibilities of the Welsh Government including public appointments, equalities, tribunals, crime and justice policy and the voluntary sector.

The Future Farmers of Wales see changes at top

THE new chairman of the Future Farmers of Wales is the Vale of Glamorgan's Chris Hanks, while the new president is Gaina Morgan of Pyle.

The club was formed 30 years ago when founder president Dai Davies and Charles Arch had the vision to provide a platform for elite younger farmers in Wales to continue their professional development and to contribute to the industry.

It's a formula that has produced many of the industry's leaders and opinion formers in Wales and has been the catalyst for a number of innovative diversifications and on-farm development. The organisation is so well regarded that meetings are held with Welsh Government ministers and officials, with Chief Veterinary Officer for Wales Professor Christianne Glossop and, this year, with Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns.

Gaina takes over from Professor Wynne Jones OBE, former principal of Harper Adams University, as president. Chris Hanks, who manages the anaerobic digestion plant at Pancross Farm in the Vale of Glamorgan, takes over from Carwyn Rees.

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Ailgylchu

Gall pob bwyd sy'n weddill, gan gynnwys pilion llysiau a sgerbydau tyrcwn fynd i'ch bin gwastraff bwyd. Gall cardiau Nadolig (heb gliter/ffoil), cardfwrdd a phapur lapio plaen fynd yn eich bocs gwyrdd/bag glas.

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ar eich diwrnod casglu arferol.

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Dydd Mawrth 25 Rhagfyr	-	Dydd Iau 27 Rhagfyr
Dydd Mercher 26 Rhagfyr	-	Dydd Gwener 28 Rhagfyr
Dydd Iau 27 Rhagfyr	-	Dydd Sadwrn 29 Rhagfyr
Dydd Gwener 28 Rhagfyr	-	Dydd Sul 30 Rhagfyr
Dydd Llun 31 Rhagfyr	-	Dim newid
Dydd Mawrth 1 Ionawr 2019	-	Dydd Mercher 2 Ionawr
Dydd Mercher 2 Ionawr	-	Dydd Iau 3 Ionawr
Dydd Iau 3 Ionawr	-	Dydd Gwener 4 Ionawr
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Temporary Lift on black bag restriction for Christmas and New Year collections

We recognise that we all produce a lot more waste and recycling this time of year, so, as promised, from **Monday 24 December 2018 - Friday 11 January 2019** the restriction to 2 black bags per household will **not** apply. **The 2 black bags restriction will resume from Monday 14 January 2019.**

Recycling

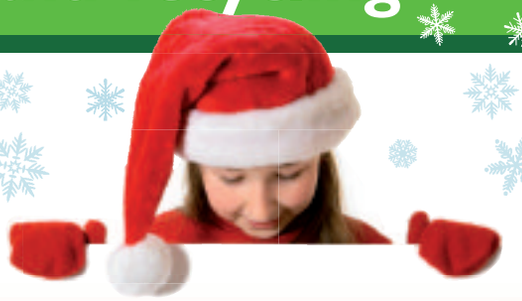
All your food leftovers including vegetable peelings and turkey carcasses can go in your food waste bin. Christmas cards (without glitter/foil), cardboard and plain wrapping paper can go in your green box/blue bag.

Unfortunately we are unable to collect: fairy lights, sticky tape, bows, tinsel/decoration, polystyrene, shiny metallic/glittery wrapping paper or gift bag handles.

Christmas Tree Recycling

We can only collect real trees for recycling. Please remove any decorations and soil. If longer than 6 foot please cut down to this size and place at the kerbside by 7.00am.

We will collect Christmas Trees from
Monday 14 January to Friday 18 January 2019
on your normal collection day.



Your Christmas and New Year Collection Days

Normal Collection Day:		Changes to:
Monday 24 December	-	No change
Tuesday 25 December	-	Thursday 27 December
Wednesday 26 December	-	Friday 28 December
Thursday 27 December	-	Saturday 29 December
Friday 28 December	-	Sunday 30 December
Monday 31 December	-	No change
Tuesday 1 January 2019	-	Wednesday 2 January
Wednesday 2 January	-	Thursday 3 January
Thursday 3 January	-	Friday 4 January
Friday 4 January	-	Saturday 5 January

Normal collection days from 7 January

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Canadian style ice cider gets a warm reception in Wales

A Cowbridge and Llanblethian cider maker has started producing a range of 'ice' ciders in the style of Canadian ice cider.

Llanblethian Orchards has started to produce a range of 'ice' ciders in the Canadian style. The ciders will be available to sample and purchase at their Christmas shop on December 22 from 12pm-6pm at The Cider Barn, Crossways, Cowbridge. CF71 7LJ.

Ice cider is based on the principles of German ice wine and was invented in Quebec, Canada by winemaker Christian Barthomeuf in 1989. Today, there are several ice cider makers in Canada and its production has started to expand internationally.

In the production process, the fruit or juice is allowed to freeze. It is then pressed or processed just as it begins to thaw. A concentrated juice is yielded, leaving the frozen water ice behind. This juice is then fermented producing a naturally sweet, high alcohol product with a concentrated fruit flavour reminicent of a fine dessert wine.

Alex Simmens, owner of Llanblethian Orchards, said: "Ice cider is a terrific product and showcases the best Welsh fruit can offer. The concentration of flavour results in a complex, rich product perfect as an aperitif. As an industry, cider needs a premium product akin to craft beer for the brewers so that the industry can reinvest in new orchards and equipment. It is my belief that ice cider may be that very product."

Llanblethian Orchards is based just outside of Llanblethian in an old stone barn between Llanblethian and Llysworney. Their ciders are available in pubs and festivals around Cardiff and south Wales and they host monthly open days at the barn during the summer.

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PACT meetings in the Vale

THERE is a drop-in PACT meeting each Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry, between 10am and 12 noon.

Neighbourhood Police Officers will be available to discuss local matters and all are welcome.

ADVERTORIAL

Care home residents develop their Welsh language skills

A Cardiff care home has encouraged the use of the Welsh language to benefit residents and local students this Christmas.

Tŷ Llandaff, a private nursing, residential and respite care home in Conway Road, Pontcanna, has invited young people from a local schools and universities to come and develop their Welsh language skills with Welsh-speaking residents.

The idea, which was the inspiration of Tŷ Llandaff's activities co-ordinator Melanie Geoghegan, benefits the residents who welcome the chance to speak their mother-tongue and helps the young students who are honing their skills for qualifications.

It also keeps the Welsh language fresh and current, whilst uniting two generations with a common language ahead of the festive period, including singing Christmas carols.

Two students, Jude Fabio D'Alesio and Daniel Townshend, from Ysgol Plasmawr in Fairwater, Cardiff have been visiting the home for several weeks to spend time speaking with the bilingual residents and hearing stories from the older people's pasts.

Jude said: "As a student at a Welsh school, it has been a pleasure to discover how many Welsh-speaking residents live at Tŷ Llandaff. I find that conversing through the medium of Welsh with these residents fills them with delight, as they rarely have the chance to speak it when I am not volunteering.

"My time at Tŷ Llandaff has not only been a superb chance to help others, but also an opportunity for me to develop precious skills and gain experience within the world of work."

Daniel Townshend added: "Volunteering in Tŷ Llandaff has been a fulfilling way to develop my interpersonal skills by sharing experiences and conversing with the residents in English and Welsh.

"It offers me a chance to keep my Welsh up to scratch, while also enabling some of the residents to have a welcome break from speaking English. It has also provided me the opportunity to complete 30 hours of voluntary work in order to pass the Welsh Baccalaureate."

Morgan Powell, a student from The Pontypridd Campus at University of South Wales, who is studying for a degree in Creative and Therapeutic Arts, has started weekly visits at Tŷ Llandaff.

Morgan said: "The home is beautiful with all the facilities that the residents need. I love spending time with the residents and bringing my bilingual skills to increase the amount of Welsh that is spoken."

Tŷ Llandaff decided to launch the scheme following research that showed that using two languages has health benefits for older people, helping improve thinking and learning and reducing rates of mental decline in older age.

"The research shows that healthy people, who are bilingual, retain their cognitive abilities for longer due to compartmentalising the languages, and switching between them at the right time, exercising the brain and having a protective function.

"In addition to this, bringing younger and older people together has the added benefit of improved mental and physical health in older people and increased social skills and confidence in the young.

Tŷ Llandaff's activities co-ordinator Melanie Geoghegan said: "Cymraeg is a wonderful language and it is the mother-tongue of so many of our residents. It would be a real shame if our bilingual residents don't get to speak Welsh at all, which is why inviting in young Welsh speakers has been such a hit. The residents love to chat in their native language and to hear young people speaking Welsh fluently."

"The research shows what a benefit it is to be bilingual, and we can see first-hand the positive impact that this is having on our residents. Even old happy memories are resurfacing, and residents are being able to access their past in a different way."

For more information about Tŷ Llandaff, contact Janice on 02920 600 100, email info@tyllandaffcare.com or visittyllandaffcare.com

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The FUW reflects on 2018, and looks towards 2019...

SPEEDING towards the end of the year and with the county office closing this week for the Christmas break, I thought it a good time to reflect on some of the things we have been busy with this year.

It certainly has been a turbulent year with Brexit, funding for agriculture, the havoc caused by the weather, bovine TB and agricultural pollution remaining high on the agenda among many other farming matters.

2018 was a year where we made some considerable progress in our #FairFarmFunding campaign and I am pleased to say the FUW's lobbying on not 'Barnettising' Welsh rural funding, as part of the #FairFarmFunding campaign, has been successful.

The success of the campaign was recognised in the PRCA awards in London, as we were runner-up in the 'Best Campaign in Wales' category.

Throughout the year, we have regularly met with Welsh and UK Government staff, including First Minister Carwyn Jones, Cabinet Secretary Lesley Griffiths and Environment Minister, Hannah Blythyn, as well as DEFRA ministers Michael Gove and George Eustice, and Wales Office minister Alun Cairns.

This is as well as attending and giving evidence to many Welsh Assembly, UK Parliament and other committees on more occasions than ever during a calendar year, taking every opportunity to represent the interests of our members.

Another major commitment this year was the Welsh Government's 'Brexit and our land' consultation. We discussed the consultation with thousands of members from all regions of Wales and all sectors, as well those with an interest in the agricultural industry.

Rachel Saunders of the Farmers' Union of Wales writes on Farming Matters.

In our response, we made it clear that the overwhelming view of members was that any major changes, as proposed in the consultation, to rural policies should be informed by knowledge and considered analysis of the post-Brexit economic landscape and trading environment.

We also called for detailed and thorough analysis, modelling and piloting to investigate likely impacts of policies on individual farm businesses, sectors, regions and those involved in upstream and downstream agricultural supply chains.

Given the responses we had from FUW members, we made it clear that the proposals put forward by the Welsh Government were rejected. With this in mind, rest assured that in the coming year the FUW will continue to be at the forefront of the fight to protect the interests of Wales' farming families and rural communities.

On a final note before Christmas day comes around, I would like to thank all of our staff and officials for their continued effort and hard work throughout the year and each and every one of our members, who through their membership and support, contribute to a stronger, more successful voice for Wales' agricultural industry.

Merry Christmas, and a prosperous and happy 2019 to you all.

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Senior pupils chatting to head of the Cathedral School, Clare Sherwood.

School pleased with Estyn report results

THE Cathedral School in Llandaff, Cardiff has been judged by Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales as 'excellent' in all five inspection areas.

Praising the school's 'high quality of teaching' and the 'extremely high standards achieved by pupils', the report also recognises its care, support and guidance arrangements which 'help pupils to develop self-confidence, acquire a broad range of important life skills and to become well-informed and active citizens.'

The work the school undertakes in this particular area has been identified as sector-leading practice which will be shared with the education sector in Wales.

Chairman of Governors, Gilbert Lloyd said: "The Board of Governors is delighted with Estyn's report. Being acknowledged as 'excellent' in all five categories is testament to the committed staff, hardworking pupils and supportive parents at the Cathedral School.

Head Clare Sherwood added: "It is wonderful that this report continues to reaffirm the Cathedral School as an 'excellent' school. I am proud that the role of the 'high quality of teaching' and our teachers' 'passion and enthusiasm' has been recognised as 'central to pupils' strong and sustained progress' ".

"Our pupils truly are 'well informed and active citizens'. Just in the last week, nine of our pupils standing for the Welsh Youth Parliament have shared their campaigns with the school community; the primary section sported Mad Hair for Pudsey Bear, raising more than £1,000 for Children in Need and four of our year 10 pupils have been announced as finalists in the DVLA Code Challenge, having designed a programme to identify phishing."

Mrs Sherwood continued: "In the year which has seen the 40th anniversary of co-education at the school, I am delighted that the report identifies our 'strong sense of community… values such as respect, tolerance, kindness and compassion, which permeate across the whole school community.'' **PB**

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Aquaman makes a spectacular splash!

WHILE last year's Justice League could have been the final nail in the DC universe, one of the highlights of that less-than-impressive affair was Jason Momoa as Arthur Curry, or, as he's better known, *Aquaman*.

Having served his time in Justice League, as well as a small cameo in *Batman vs Superman: Dawn of Justice*, he finally gets to headline his own film.

Aquaman tells the story of Curry, the son of a lighthouse keeper (Temuera Morrison) and Atlanna (Nicole Kidman), the princess of Atlantis.

With the power to communicate with marine life forms he grows up on the land, eschewing the call of the deep.

However, when he learns that his half-brother Orm (Patrick Wilson) is hell-bent on bringing a war from the depths of the ocean to the land and conquering the world, Arthur and Mera (Amber Heard), who is betrothed to Orm, team up and set about stopping his dastardly plan...

Anything from the DCU comes seemingly pre-tainted with the negativity that has surrounded much of the universe's output.

However *Aquaman,* much like *Wonder Woman* before it, is a film that stands on its own two feet and is all the better for it; and while it doesn't quite match *Wonder Woman's* success on filmic terms, it's still a hugely entertaining and satisfying comic-book movie.

If Jason Momoa had shown fits and starts of his charisma as part of the ensemble in Justice League, then with his own film to carry he delivers an effortlessly charming performance here.

It helps that he carries off the physical requirements of what a superhero is supposed to look like, but beyond that Momoa is an engaging lead, carrying off the bravado of the role with ease and just about comfortably holding his own in the more dramatic moments.

Surrounding him is a cast who bring quality to proceedings, the likes of Nicole Kidman, Temuera Morrison and Willem Dafoe having sufficient nous to bring texture to the support.

Amber Heard and Patrick Wilson, as Mera and the villainous Orm respectively, offer strong turns in rounded characters that, pleasingly, don't wholly play to type.

Also engaging is Yaha Abdul-Mateen II as Black Manta, one of the most faithful page-to-screen character conversions as a thorn in Arthur's side with personal stakes between the two characters.

For James Wan, *Aquaman* is the latest detour on a career that has seen him handle horrors (*Saw, The Conjuring*) and tentpole blockbusters (*Fast and Furious 7*), and visually he is more than up to the task here.

SCREEN TALK with GARETH JAMIESON Follow him on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

With much of the action taking place under the water, the technology used to make you believe people are talking and acting beneath the waves is superb and marshalled well by Wan, while the scope and scale he brings to proceedings is hugely impressive.

There's an Avatar-meets-The Phantom Menace feel to the fluorescent sea kingdoms, and Wan doesn't shy away from immersing you in these worlds, the camera weaving and diving with the attention to detail wholly impressive.

But his directorial chops impress just as much.

Two sequences in particular stand out - a chase set-piece in Sicily that pings back and forth between two characters without cutting brings some inventiveness, while a set-piece in the much-dreaded Trench Kingdom is tense and visually superb.

Where it falls down is in a messy opening 20 minutes where the various plot points are set up with a degree of awkwardness which, once settled down, fall into place, while there are more than a few moments where dialogue clunks and the film loses its way a little.

The soundtrack is also more than a little incongruous, its 1980s synthy moments feeling hugely out of place, while any film that allows Pitbull to 'reinterpret' Toto's 'Africa', no matter how fleetingly, should be heavily reprimanded.

But, on the whole, this is a film of adventure, scale and pace and does a superb job of establishing Aquaman within the pantheon of big-screen superheroes.

With a little tease to further adventures in the mid-credits, the future looks bright for *Aquaman*.

VERDICT: A character that used to be viewed as something of a joke ("A superhero who talks to fish?"), with Jason Momoa on fine form and James Wan delivering a visually gorgeous film, Aquaman is anything but a joke now. There are a few clunky moments, but on the whole this is a superb piece of work, and thoroughly entertaining. Recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Avatar* (2009), *Thor* (2011).

Music in the Vale

In last week's report on the 'Music in the Vale' competition, the above photo was incorrectly captioned. It actually shows representatives of Cowbridge Male Voice Choir (who sponsored the choir section) presenting the prize to a member of the winning choir, Cor Heol y March.

The festive season will be a hectic one for the police

YOU may have read about a large-scale operation we have been carrying out recently to tackle the supply of drugs in our communities.

Around 220 officers took part in Operation Avalanche where drug warrants were executed at a number of addresses including in the Vale and Bridgend. I am pleased to say 32 people to date have been charged for drug offences in connection with this operation. We are committed to tackling drug dealing in our communities, so please keep report any concerns to us so we can act.

We are days away from Christmas and I would like to wish GEM readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, from all officers in the Vale.

Christmas is usually a very busy time for emergency services, I would like to personally thank officers and staff who will be working during this period and won't be able to spend time with their families.

The festive season is an enjoyable time of year however, it is also a time of year where criminals can take advantage, so I would like to remind residents to make sure their homes are secure and that Christmas presents aren't on display near windows.

The annual anti-drink/drug driving campaign is fully underway and we are reminding drivers of the dangers and consequences of getting behind the wheel after drinking or taking drugs.

Our message is simple; if you are out and know you will be drinking, make sure you have plans for getting home safely without driving. You will be arrested if you are driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

by Chief Inspector for the Vale, Tony Williams

VINTAGE FLEA MARKET TO BE HELD IN SULLY

ON Friday, December 28, Antiques in Wales are holding a vintage flea market at Sully Sports and Social Club from 10am.

It's got to be the perfect way to avoid the sales yet get out and about after Christmas, so why not bag yourself a vintage bargain at the flea market! For more information contact Beverley on 07504684553.

Presley will be the king of your heart

Presley is a handsome lad with a big personality and will make a great companion, says canine carer Lyndsey.

PRESLEY is a 15 month old Yorkshire Terrier who is an excitable chap with boundless energy.

However, he does suffer from hip dysplasia, which means he will be on restricted exercise, so it would be very helpful for him to have lots of mental stimulation.

He loves the company of other dogs and we are looking to rehome him with a well-adjusted dog already established in the home.

Presley is looking for a committed adult-only home where he is given some space to settle in his own time. Canine Carer Lyndsey said: "Presley is a fun boy who is eager to please and a pleasure to spend time with."

Visit www.dogstrust.org.uk for more information.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

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The GEM
will be taking a break for Christmas!
Our next edition will be 3rd January 2019.
Visit glamorgan-gem.co.uk
for all the latest news, sports reports, results, nativity photos, community news plus local advertisers with their latest offers and promotions. The site will be updated **ALL DAY, EVERY DAY** over the festive period.

We would like to wish all our readers and advertisers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

The Glamorgan GEM Seasonal Greetings

Christmas is a time of festive fun and tradition

CHRISTMAS is a wonderful time of the year, a chance to relax with family, friends and loved-ones and enjoy the seasonal festivities.

It's also a time of tradition, and here at The GEM our staff are no different when it comes to their festive routines.

We asked our staff to tell all about their Christmas traditions and here's what we found out...

I am not sure where my love of Christmas trees stems from.

As a child, my mother would drag a small artificial tree from the attic, with its branches balder as each year passed.

The elderly glass decorations were stowed carefully after each Twelfth Night, and the mystery of how some ended up as glass shards when the tin was opened the following year was never solved.

On account of a boisterous Labrador, the tree only ever had garish plastic replacements.

As an adult, I've always secretly enjoyed festive trees in other people's houses but badly-strewn tinsel and uneven bauble application are particularly jarring to me, unless the children are involved; then it's charming.

There's nothing like a well-decorated and lit tree to inspire Christmas spirit and the bigger and grander, the better.

Shopping centres, town squares and hotels usually put up magnificent, twinkling displays – but Santa help them if they get it wrong.

I will admit things might have got out of hand in my home; last year, there were nine trees of varying sizes and themes.

My family grudgingly accept that it is going to happen again this year and don't seem to mind that some of the trees have chocolates hidden in the branches.

Whether your tree is spindly, minimal, coloured, real, artificial or lop-sided, as long as it fills you with joy, that's the real spirit of Christmas.

Carolyn Bailey

I find that Christmas traditions flow in and out of one's life dependent on place, people, and circumstance.

A decade and more ago, I tended to work on Christmas Day because I was in a country where Christmas was not really celebrated.

"Bah, humbug!" you might say, although it saved my life, and by golly, thereby hangs a tale... Two, nearly three decades ago, I also tended to work at Christmas, but that was because I was in the Army. Deployed overseas to some of Britain's forgotten conflicts of the 1990s, and whether preparing for the "Mother of All Battles" or wearing the rather fetching shade of blue beret and body armour reserved for UN ops, life and work – and war – went on.

Turkey, and the padre, came from from the realms of glory, like angels, but really by heli. One tradition that abides from before that time to now is, perhaps for some, boring.

Christmas Eve, at 1500hrs GMT/UTC/Zulu, all is calm, all is... quite dark. No lights save for candles and the safe glow of the fire, and a glass of sherry in hand. On goes Radio Four and A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College, Cambridge. Dreamt up by a former Army chaplain, it was first held 100 years ago this year, and first broadcast one decade later.

These days, I listen to it on digital radio, which is a cleaner sound than FM, but on my first overseas deployment (the Gulf War), it was on my trusty and dusty Sony short-wave world band radio, and a good few time zones ahead.

We were men of the world aged 22 or so, cavalier of attitude and cavalry of regiment, but were in the dark, in the middle of nowhere.

Within a protective cordon made by our vehicles, and by them or in our shellscrapes, with our NBC kit as close to us as our weapons, the crackling sound of Once In Royal David's City as we waited for another chemical alert made a mockery of our stiff upper lips, resulting in the odd manly chin wobble. But why? Not all were churchgoers,or had any faith. Was that aphorism about foxholes and atheists true? Damned if I know, but to my brothers in arms and me (then), and to the me of now, I think that what it conjured – still conjures – up, can be condensed into one word: home.

Andy Johnstone

A tradition is something you do the same way, at regular intervals, sometimes for no reason except that you have always done it.

As Christmas comes every year it's easy to apply tradition: comforting, too. I'll have no truck with recipes that exhort me to 'Ring the Changes This Year, with Pineapple and Harissa in Your Mince Pies!' Pay no attention. You only eat them once a year, now's your chance.

Christmas recipes come out every year from my own battered recipe book, and they're handed down from cooks on both sides of my family. The egg flip (six eggs, a can of condensed milk, one bottle of brandy) from Granddad Marsden.

Granddad Hartley, an army cook trained at Aldershot kept his own recipe book, beautifully written in 'copperplate', and it details the menus to be presented to the officers (but his spelling leaves something to be desired). My grandmother wrote her own wine recipes in the spaces that he left at the bottom of each page.

Spice Cake comes from Great-Grandma Appleyard, as does the enormous yellow-glazed Yorkshire crock to stir it up in, as my mother always used to.

My mother added trifle to the family tradition and all my siblings still make that at Christmas. A photograph of our Christmas dinner table that I found recently, from 50 years ago, features the trifle about to be doled out, cherries and all and my little brother kneeling up on his chair in anticipation. It was always made in the same glass bowl, the biggest one we had.

My goldfish lived in the bowl the rest of the year 'round; on Christmas Eve he had to vacate and spend 24 hours in a bucket. That was one tradition which deserved to be changed – he eventually got an actual fish tank, which appeared on my table one Christmas morning with him in it, and I finally got to view him from the side.

Gillian Tasker

The Llantwit Major Conservative Branch
would like to wish everyone
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and a Happy New Year
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If you are interested in joining our group or just supporting our aims please email
gordon.wilkie@gmail.com

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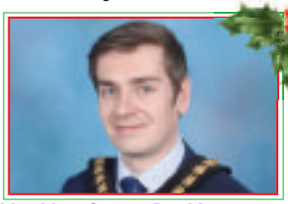
Councillor Leighton Rowlands
The Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council extend
• SEASONS GREETINGS •
To all residents of the Vale of Glamorgan; May God's peace be in your hearts and homes this Christmas season and throughout the New Year.



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Bydded heddwch Duw yn eich calonnau a chartrefi y tymor hwn y Nadolig a thrwy gydol y flwyddyn newydd.

‘Council needs to make wall safe’ claims Barry resident

Lloyd and Aisha Bailey in their back garden with the retaining wall behind them. IMAGE by JODIE WOOLLEY @aboveandbelowproductions (Facebook).

A Barry resident who claims a dangerous retaining wall at the back of his garden could cost £90,000 to repair says the Vale Council needs to make it safe, writes TIM CHAPMAN.

Lloyd Bailey of 14 Bastian Close, who moved into his property in 2014, has always insisted the wall wasn’t his despite the council pressing him to make repairs. He says a specialist advised him the full work could cost around £90,000.

Last month, the Vale Council sought an order under section 77 of the Building Act 1984 in Cardiff Magistrates Court to force Mr Bailey to do the work, but it withdrew the application because it couldn’t establish ownership or responsibility for the wall.

Mr Bailey explained: “Bastian Close was built in 1991, but Kez House behind me was built in around 1892 and the retaining wall was built at the same time to support Kez House.

“The council’s commissioned report of April this year describes the wall as ‘unstable’ and ‘dangerous and liable to collapse’.

“We are worried about the safety of our property and the safety of the families at 14 and 15 Bastian Close.

“Under the building act the council has a clear obligation to ensure the retaining wall is safe. We haven’t been able to use our garden for the four years we have lived here and it is now overgrown and vegetation has caused further damage.

“There have been several partial collapses of the retaining wall.

“The proceedings against me were misguided and have cost me £23,000 and the council over £25,000 – and the danger of the wall has still not been addressed.

“I am hopeful the council can address these issues in good time and that matters can be resolved amicably.”

Mr Bailey says the court made an order for just and reasonable costs and he is waiting for reimbursement from the council.

The council had claimed Bastian Close residents were responsible for the wall after commissioning a boundary report from Ball & Co.

But a boundary specialist who compiled a report on behalf of Mr Bailey said the wall was owned by the property behind him.

The report from David Gregson Ltd said: “In my opinion the retaining wall is owned by Kez House…the line of legal boundary is the external face of the wall abutting 14 Bastian Close.”

A Vale Council spokesman told The GEM: “The wall to the rear of 14 and 15 Bastian Close is not owned or maintained by the council but has been the subject of complaints for some years regarding its condition.

“Despite evidence from a surveyor employed by the council, the council was unable to establish ownership of and responsibility for the wall at a recent hearing.

“It is important to note that this does not mean that the property owners at Bastian Close do not own the wall, but that the council was not able to conclusively prove ownership.

“Also worth highlighting is that number 14 Bastian Close was purchased in 2014 with the full knowledge of the condition of the wall to the rear.

“The council is now considering its position and how best to proceed with this matter, having regard to what are limited public finances.”

The GEM contacted the owner of Kez House who chose not to comment.

Tea for two, or more...

A GROUP of volunteers in Penarth is helping to address loneliness and isolation by taking elderly people out to tea once a month.

The group, which is part of the charity Contact the Elderly (CtE), has been running for almost 20 years providing friendship to elderly people.

The charity organises monthly tea party events for small groups of older people aged 75 and over.

Groups are run by local volunteers: volunteer drivers collect older guests from their homes and accompany them to tea parties, while volunteer hosts hold tea parties in their homes and a local volunteer organiser makes sure the group runs smoothly.

All the south Wales groups recently came together for their annual Christmas meal. Over 100 guests and volunteers met to enjoy a Christmas lunch, carols and a visit from Santa. This year, CtE is joining forces with the charity Community Christmas to ensure no older person spends the day alone unless they want to.

For further information, contact Kate Housley on 029 20026211, email kate.housley@contact-the-elderly.org.uk, or visit www.contact-the-elderly.org.uk.

AS

NFU Ladies enjoy their festive party

THE NFU Ladies wish to thank Matthew Brind, whose musical ability was thoroughly enjoyed at their recent Christmas party.

The star of the evening was Helena, who entertained the ladies with her hilarious Oscar performance.

The group next meets at Lanelay Hall at 7pm on Tuesday, January 15 for their annual dinner.

Happy Christmas to all from the NFU Ladies.

RJE

Follow us on Facebook - facebook.com/GlamorganGEM and on Twitter - @gem_news/ @GEMSportsNews

Barry Round Table wraps up a busy year with festive lunch

ON December 15, Barry Round Table held its annual elderly people’s dinner to support those in our communities who are most at risk of being socially isolated this Christmas.

At the dinner, which was held at Barry Town United’s Jenner Suite, 65 people enjoyed a three course meal supplied by the 4th Horseshoe Group, along with entertainment by Vera Lynn tribute act Lisa Kondova, local singer Ben Dain-Smith and former Round Table member Dave Beadle.

Each guest enjoyed Christmas cake supplied by Francesca’s Cakes, mince pies supplied by Food For Thought Delicatessen and a bag of Christmas gifts, supplied by a host of local shops, businesses and supermarkets.

Barry Round Table chairman Barrie Dyer said: “Our elderly people’s dinner is the highlight of my year. It’s wonderful to see so many of our guests enjoying themselves and not having to worry about a thing.

“We know that many live alone and can spend much of Christmas by themselves, so it’s brilliant for us to be able to bring them together with other people to celebrate Christmas as it should be.

“On behalf of Barry Round Table I’d like to thank Co-Op Barry members for their donations through membership cards, as well as the Richard from the 4th Horsehoe Group who saved the event, stepping in just two days before when another caterer pulled out; along with all of the other local businesses who continue to support us throughout the year.”

Barry Round Table continue to be out with Santa right up until Christmas, with your final chance to see him before the big night being at the Tesco Superstore on Port Road in Barry on December 22 and 23 from 10:30am – 4pm.

If you know someone aged 18 – 45 who wants to help us do even more in our community then visit barry.roundtable.co.uk.

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- Adjoining Guest Wing - C.2 acres of Garden and Paddock
- Large Detached Stable Block

£1,500,000

Cowbridge

- Historic Water Mill - Stylishly Converted
- Four Bedrooms - Four Living Rooms
- Additional Stable Conversion - Double Garage
- Delightful Riverside Gardens
- Meadow Views Towards Llanblethian

£1,350,000

Peterston-Super-Ely

- Traditional Farmhouse
- Sympathetically Extended and Stylishly Refurbished
- Three Principal Reception Rooms - Six Bedrooms
- Pair of Cottages - Ground Floor Flat
- Set in c. 5 acres- Private Location

£1,250,000

Talygarn

- Exclusive Detached - Individually Designed Family House
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- Double Garage
- Close to Local Amenities
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Llantwit Major

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- Lovely Gardens - Delightful Location

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Graig Penllyn

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- Three Living Rooms
- Attractive Gardens
- Excellent Local Village Facilities

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- Integral Double Garage
- High Quality Fixtures and Fittings
- Master Suite with Terrace, Ensuite and Dressing Room

£549,995

Bettws

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- Two Reception Rooms
- Stunning Views
- Private Setting
- Set in c.7.5 acres
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APPLICATION DEADLINE: 28TH DECEMBER 2018

All Homes4U properties have double glazing and central heating unless otherwise stated and will be allocated to the maximum occupancy.
It may take longer to rehouse you if you are awarded medical priority as there is a shortage of accessible and adapted homes in the Vale.

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H4U reference 248901
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- First floor

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HARLECH GARDENS, BARRY (NO PETS)

H4U reference 211300
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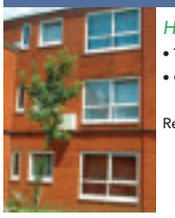

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Visit the HOMES4U web page to view homes available immediately.

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of the rented homes.
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Public Notice

ELEANOR MARGARET ATKINSON (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the afore-mentioned deceased, late of Ledbury Nursing Home Market Street Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 2AQ formerly of Number 1 Railway Cottages Llandow near Cowbridge Vale of Glamorgan CF71 7NX, who died on 15/12/2011, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 01/03/2019, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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LISA JAYNE CURTIN (otherwise Maiden name: Summers) (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 106 GLENBROOK DRIVE, BARRY CF63 2FA, who died on 15/06/2018, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 21/02/2019, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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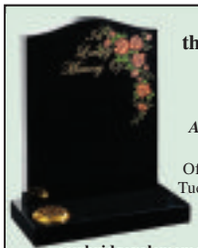

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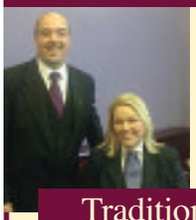

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Family Notices

CARTER

Marie Winfred Anne (*née Gilham*)

Marie passed away peacefully at the University Hospital of Wales Cardiff, aged 91, on 12th December 2018, following a short illness. Devoted wife to the late John, loving mother to Jeremy, Anne, Christopher and Nicholas, and adored mother-in-law of Monica and Larry. Beloved sister and sister-in-law of Dawn and Malcolm and a dear sister of the late Joy. Cherished grandmother to Shaun, Andrew, Sophie, Rachel and Amber, and much-loved great grandmother to Barton and Hermione. Also a dear aunt to Emma and Verity.

Marie's kindness and wisdom will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Resting in the care of Green Willow Funerals, Dinas Powys until a celebration of her life on Monday, 7th January 2019 at Merthyr Dyfan Church, Barry at 1pm. The service to be followed by a cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. Family flowers only. Donations, if so desired, to Velindre Cancer Centre, Cardiff.

All enquiries to Green Willow Funerals, 21a Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE. Tel: 029 2051 4627.

BEVAN

John (JB)

Passed away peacefully on 12th December 2018 in the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, John, of Longfellow Drive, Cefn Glas. Beloved husband of the late Dot, much loved dad of Martyn and Debbie. Adored grampa of Paula, Hayley, Bethan, Catrin and Nia. Great Grampa JB of Bea and Ernie. A treasured and special father-in-law of Ruth and Philip (special friend of Ted and Paul).

John will be sadly missed by his family and many friends and will be resting at home until the funeral on Thursday, 27th December 2018. Service in Coychurch Crematorium at 11am. Family flowrs only by request but donations please to Cancer Research Wales, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff.

Further enquiries to Adrian Oliver Funeral Director telephone 01656 665403.

BARRATT

Kathleen Patricia (Pattie)

Peacefully at home on 14th December, Pattie sadly passed away. A devoted wife to Roy and cherished mum of Amanda. Special mother-in-law to Tim, an adored nanna of Harvey and Edie.

Pattie will be dearly missed by all her family and many friends.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her service at St Mary's Church, Holton Road, Barry on Thursday, 10th January 2019 at 11.15am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Floral tributes may be sent to the funeral home.

Further enquiries please telephone 01446 407962.

KINSEY

Patricia Harriet (Pat)

Peacefully on 15th December 2018, at Monkstone House Care Home, Porthcawl, Pat. Much loved wife of the late Emlyn, loving mother of Rosalyn, Helen, Nigel and Alison. Mother-in-law to Roger, Tony, Frances and Paul and nanny to seven grandchildren and great-grandmother to eleven great-grandchildren.

Pat will be sadly missed by all her family.

Funeral Friday, 4th January 2019. Service at Bridgend United Church, Tondu Road, Bridgend at 12.30pm, followed by interment at Pwllypant Cemetery, Ogmore Vale at 2pm.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu may be made to NSPCC c/o Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services, 2, Hilda House, The Square, Pencoed, Bridgend. Tel: 01656 860545.

PHILLIPS

Margaret Robina

Peacefully on 14th December 2018, Margaret, beloved wife of the late Alan. Much loved mum of John and Anne, cherished nan and great nanny.

Margaret will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

For funeral enquiries please contact A.G. Adams Funeralcare on 01446 735400.

Family Notices

SELF
Alan Douglas

Alan peacefully passed away in his sleep on 14th December 2018. Loving husband of Marcy, father to Steven, Richard and Jessica and grandfather of Isobel and Benjamin.

He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Funeral service to be held on Thursday, 3rd January 2019 at Barry Crematorium at 3pm. Donations in lieu of flowers would be appreciated for The PDSA. All enquires to Green Willow Funerals, 21a Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE. Tel: 029 2051 4627.

HIPPARD
Janet (*née* Lambert)

Suddenly, but peacefully, on 12th December, Janet, a devoted wife to the late Ted, much loved mum of Lisa and Adele. Cherished nan of Holly, Emma, Daniel and Ross, an adored Nanny 2 of Tia, Bailey, Lexi and Harleigh.

She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Janet is resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until her service at All Saint's Church, Park Road, Barry on Thursday, 3rd January at 11.15am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Floral tributes may be delivered to the funeral home. Further enquiries please telephone 01446 407962.

SLADE
Ceri

Suddenly after a short illness at Holme Tower, Ceri passed away peacefully in her sleep on 10th December 2018. Beloved wife of Steven, loved daughter of Stefanie and the late Trevor, sister of Nick and will also be greatly missed by Ryan and Lauren.

Resting at James Summers Funeralcare, Penarth until the funeral service at 2.00pm on Friday 28th December at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations in memory if wished may be made to Marie Curie Cancer Care, Bridgeman Road, Penarth, CF64 3YR.

WILLIAMS
Michael

Passed away peacefully on 11th December 2018, aged 79 years, always in our hearts. Loving husband to Birgit, father of Patricia and Dawn, father-in-law to Jimmy and Graham and grandfather to Kristian, Storm, Skye and Niall.

Will be lovingly missed by all.

Resting at Park Funeral Directors, Tynewydd Road, Barry until service and cremation at Cardiff and the Vale Crematorium on Friday, 21st December 2018 at 10am. Family flowers only, donations if desired can be made to Marie Curie at the service or forwarded onto Park Funeral Directors

WATKINS
Catherine B
(*née* Rowlands)

After a long courageous battle, Cath of Lon Cefn Mably, Rhoose. Cherished daughter of Tina and Derek. Proud mother of Chloe, Samuel, Joshua, Jacob and Matthew. Much loved sister to Helen, Sian and families.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, 21st December, service and cremation 11am at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Your legacy will live on through all the people and children you helped, during your short life.

Sleep well sweetheart, you have earned it.

Rest in peace *xxxx*

In Memory

Craig Orchard
19/07/1984 - 25/12/2015

It's our third Christmas without you.
We don't wish for presents under the tree, only your presence around it.
We miss you so much every single day.

Forever in our hearts

Mum, Dad, Rhian, Bobo, your family and friends xxx

In Memory

In Loving Memory
KEN EVANS
26th December 1938

No cards again this year, only memories.
Happy 80th Birthday
from your loving wife Margaret *xxx*

*****

Happy Birthday Dad
Love and miss you
from Alison, Sean, Neil and Emma *xxx*

*****

Happy 80th Birthday Bamps.
I wrote your name in the sand but the waves washed it away,
I put your name in my heart, forever you will stay.
Love and miss you Maddy *xxx*

*****

Happy Birthday Gramps
I look up to the sky at night and see your star shining bright.
Happy Birthday love from Harri *xxx*

*****

Happy Birthday Gramps
love from Bradley, Amy, Jordan and great grandchildren *xxx*

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES
JOSEPH GILL
22nd December

It's Christmas time again Dad, when we were all together.
I can't bring the old days back but memories last forever.
Love Wendy, Christopher and Nicholas xxx

Christmas Memory Wishes to our dear grandson
Jordan Montgomery
All our love always,
Nan & Gramps Crout.
xxx

BIRD
Eric Osborne
4.4.1938 - 23.12. 2014

To the world you are one person,
To one person you are the world.
Loved and missed always,
Judy xxx

Christmas Memories
Karl Williams

There is always a face before us, a voice we love to hear,
A smile we will always remember, we love you so dear, so deep in our hearts.
Life is a picture, more precious than gold, it's a picture of you Karl, whose memory will never grow old.
Always, remembering our grandson/nephew Leighton Batt and all our family who have passed away.
Merry Christmas we love you so.
Mam, Dad, Kris, Gemma, Curtis & Lacey
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Christmas Greetings

Chris and John Boucheron

Would like to wish all friends and family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A donation will be made to the Stroke Association in lieu of Christmas cards.

JOYCE TAYLOR
wishes all her friends and neighbours a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Sheila Fifield
wishes all her family and friends
a Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

Mary Bacon
Would like to wish her family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Howard and Marilyn Hellyar
would like to wish family, friends, neighbours and fellow bowlers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Mrs Lily Collier
would like to wish family, friends and neighbours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SUMMERELL
Bill and Wendy
would like to wish all their friends and family a very Happy Christmas and thank you all for the kind words and messages this last year.

Valerie Gatt
would like to wish family, friends and neighbours
A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Love Val x

Brunie Burden of Llantwit Major
Brunie would like to wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all carers and the management of Cherish Cymru. Also, to Western Vale & Coast Surgery, Boots the Chemist, the Flower Shop, the Chocolate Box, Spar Newsagents and Nickleby's Bookshop. With many thanks for their continued support throughout my difficult time.

Ray and Irene Davies
would like to wish family, friends and neighbours a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Carole Tobin
would like to wish everyone
a Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

BAKER
Darren, Sue, Joe & Abi
wish all their family, friends and neighbours a very Merry Christmas and Happy 2019.
In lieu of cards a donation will be made to our chosen charity.

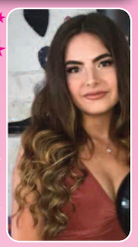
Advertisers please note : to appear in the following week's edition, Telephone 01446 774484. email: sales@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Birthdays

Holly Price

Happy 18th Birthday

on 22nd December



Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Abbie, Ellie & all your family xxxx

Births

BALL

Thank you Floss and Jamie for our darling great granddaughter

WILLOW

Born on 9th December 2018
Weight 6lb 7oz
A darling sister for Isabelle.
Lots of love to you all
Great Grandma & Great Gramps
xxx

Anniversary

CURTIN

Suzie & Doug

Golden Wedding

21st December 2018

Anniversary to my Wonderful Mum & Dad and adored Nanny & Grandad to Max & Evan.

'Don't know what we would do without you.'

We love you so much,
Lucy, Max and Evan
xxx

TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS ON DON'T DO IT YOURSELF, PLEASE CALL US ON 01446 774484
sales@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Situations Vacant

A vacancy has become available for an

Administrator/Receptionist

in **The Glamorgan GEM**

based in Cowbridge for approximately 23 hours per week. Duties to include general office and reception cover. Experience in a busy office environment essential. Wages negotiable depending on experience.

Please email cv to jan.irving@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Closing Date – 11 January 2019

BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL

VACANCY

Bridgend Town Council is seeking applications for the following position:

Democratic Services Administration Officer
18 Hours per week (Monday – Wednesday)
£9,796.86 (Fulltime equivalent £20,138)

Full details, including job description, person specification and details on how to apply, can be found on the Town Council website: www.bridgendtowncouncil.gov.uk

Closing date for applications: 11th January 2019

new-job-today.co.uk
finding your perfect post

barry-today.co.uk
cowbridge-today.co.uk
llantwit-major-today.co.uk
porthcawl-today.co.uk
bridgend-today.co.uk

The GEM
News, Sport, Letters, Features, What's On, Jobs, Motors....

Public Notice

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR FANNAU AROS A LLWYTHO A PHARCIO) (GORFODI SIFIL) (DIWYGIAD) (RHIF 4A) 2018

1. Ar 19 Rhagfyr 2018 gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, greu Gorchymyn a fydd yn gweithredu'r cyfyngiadau parcio a nodir yn atodlen 1 isod.
2. Bydd y Gorchymyn yn dod i rym ar 1 Ionawr 2019 neu ar y dyddiadau y mae'r arwyddion a'r marciau ffordd yn eu lle ac yn cael eu gwaredu, p'un bynnag sydd hwyraf ac fe'i gelwir yn "Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Gwahardd a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros a Llwytho a Mannau Parcio) (Gorfodi Sifil) (Diwygiad) (Rhif 4A) 2018"
3. Gellir gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn a chynlluniau sy'n dangos yr ardaloedd yr effeithir arnynt yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.
4. Os dymunwch gwestiynu dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw ddarpariaethau ynddo ar y sail nad ydynt yn unol â'r pwerau a ddyfarnwyd gan y Ddeddf uchod neu ar y sail na chydymffurfiwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, neu unrhyw offeryn a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn, gallwch, o fewn chwe wythnos o 1 Ionawr 2019, wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys at y diben hwn.

Diwygir y Gorchymyn Rheoleiddio Traffig canlynol fel a ganlyn:

Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Gwahardd a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros a Llwytho a Pharcio) (Gorfodi Sifil) 2013

ATODLEN

Cynnig Arfaethedig ar gyfer Diddymu Gwahardd Aros ar Unrhyw Adeg
Crosshill Y Cnap Y Barri (Map BB49)

Ar ochr ddeheuol y ffordd o bwynt 4.5 metr i ddwyrain y mynediad at "Sealawns" i gyfeiriad dwyreiniol am bellter o 24 metr.

Dyddiedig 20 Rhagfyr 2018
Cyfarwyddwr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, The Alps, Gwenfô CF5 6AA

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) (NO 4A) ORDER 2018

12x6

1. On the 19th December 2018 The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004 and all other enabling powers made an Order to remove the parking restriction specified in schedule 1 below.
2. The Order will come into operation on 1st January 2019 or on the dates that the signs and road markings are installed and removed whichever is the later and be known as the "Vale of Glamorgan Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) (Amendment) (No 4A) Order 2018"
3. A copy of the Order and plans showing the affected areas may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.
4. If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 1st January 2019 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows:
Vale of Glamorgan Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

SCHEDULE

Proposed Revocation of Prohibition of Waiting At Any Time
Crosshill The Knap Barry (Map BB49)

On the southern side of the road from a point 4.5 metres east of the access to "Sealawns" in an easterly direction for a distance of 24 metres.

Dated this 20th day of December 2018.
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe CF5 6AA

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR FANNAU AROS A LLWYTHO A PHARCIO) (GORFODI SIFIL) (DIWYGIAD) (RHIF 3A) 2018

1. Ar 19 Rhagfyr 2018 gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, greu Gorchymyn i osod y cyfyngiad parcio a nodir yn yr atodlen isod.
2. Bydd y Gorchymyn yn dod i rym ar 1 Ionawr 2019 neu ar y dyddiadau y mae'r arwyddion a'r marciau ffordd yn eu lle, p'un bynnag sydd hwyraf ac fe'i gelwir yn "Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Gwahardd a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros a Llwytho a Mannau Parcio) (Gorfodi Sifil) (Diwygiad) (Rhif 3A) 2018"
3. Gellir gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn a chynlluniau sy'n dangos yr ardaloedd yr effeithir arnynt yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.
4. Os dymunwch gwestiynu dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw ddarpariaethau ynddo ar y sail nad ydynt yn unol â'r pwerau a ddyfarnwyd gan y Ddeddf uchod neu ar y sail na chydymffurfiwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, neu unrhyw offeryn a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn, gallwch, o fewn chwe wythnos o 1 Ionawr 2019, wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys at y diben hwn.

Diwygir y Gorchymyn Rheoleiddio Traffig canlynol fel a ganlyn:

Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Gwahardd a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros a Llwytho a Pharcio) (Gorfodi Sifil) 2013

ATODLEN

Cynnig Gwahardd Aros ar Unrhyw Adeg
Porthkerry Road Y Barri (Map AY49)

Ar ochr y de orllewin o'r gyffordd gyda Windsor Road i gyfeiriad y de am 34 metr

Windsor Road Y Barri (Map AY49)

Ar ochr y De orllewin o'r gyffordd gyda Porthkerry Road i gyfeiriad y de ddwyrain am 34 metr

Dyddiedig 20 Rhagfyr 2018.
Cyfarwyddwr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, The Alps, Gwenfô CF5 6AA

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) (NO 3A) ORDER 2018

13x6

1. On the 19th December 2018 The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004 and all other enabling powers made an Order to install the parking restriction specified in the schedule below.
2. The Order will come into operation on 1st January 2019 or on the dates that the signs and road markings are installed whichever is the later and shall be known as the "Vale of Glamorgan Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) (Amendment) (No 3A) Order 2018"
3. A copy of the Order and plans showing the affected areas may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.
4. If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 1st January 2018 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows:
Vale of Glamorgan Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

SCHEDULE

Proposed Prohibition of Waiting At Any Time
Porthkerry Road Barry (Map AY49)

On the South western side from its junction with Windsor Road in a south westerly Direction for a distance of 34 metres

Windsor Road Barry (Map AY49)

On the South western side from its junction with Porthkerry Road in a south easterly Direction for a distance of 34 metres

Dated this 20th day of December 2018.
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

A little case of tree trouble for Dai on the golf course

THE Christmas meeting of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society was held last Thursday at St Athan Golf Club, sponsored by Mr Martyn David of Picketston Poultry and attracted 30 competitors.

Despite the recent spell of wet weather the course was in remarkably good condition which ensured a closely contested competition resulting in just two points separating the top five players.

Leading the field at the close with 31 stableford points to win a fresh turkey was joint master of the Glamorgan Hunt Martyn Edwards, who was enjoying a rare day off from exercising hounds around the lanes of the Vale. Just one point behind to win a fresh duck was desperately unlucky Dai John who dropped vital points in very unusual circumstances.

A large tree at the side of the sixth green caused popular member Dai much annoyance when his tee shot not only hit the tree but also retained his ball some 20 feet off the ground much to the amusement of playing partners Mark Rees and Dai Llewellyn.

In third place winning a fresh chicken was Tony McCarthy with 29 points (18 back nine) followed by Chris Rooney who also had 29 points (14 back nine). Brian Jones also with 29 points but with only 13 on the back nine finished in fifth place.

Winner Martyn Edwards with society captain Keith James, sponsor Martyn David and over-80 winner Glyn Watt- Jones.

Special prizes for the 80+ category were awarded to Aubrey Bowen who finished with 25 points and also to the winner of this section Glyn Watts-Jones who finished with 27 points.

John Davies and Aubrey Thomas were also rans. Nearest the pin on the Watts & Morgan (Cowbridge) sponsored par-3 holes were Dan Jarvis, Julian Golunski, Dai John and Hugh Williams who also collected the Llanerch Vineyard and Restaurant prize when hitting the longest drive down the 10th fairway. John Davies won a fresh chicken by correctly guessing 16 balls would fail to return home which raised £75 for the Llantwit Major Lifeguards.

Members now have a seven-week break before assembling at Coed Y Mwstwr Golf club on January 31, kindly sponsored by Mr Gino Cocco of Llanharan Concrete Co Ltd.

Finally, captain Keith James and all the members of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society wish golfers throughout the Vale a very happy and blessed Christmas and New Year.

T.McC

Public Notice

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (WALES) ORDER 2012 NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 10 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Proposed development at: **Bryncastell, Land North of Llangewydd Road, Bridgend**

Take notice that application is being made by: **Persimmon Homes West Wales**

For planning permission to: **Residential development of 135 dwellings and associated infrastructure.**

Local Planning Authority: **Bridgend County Borough Council, Planning Department, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.**

Any owner of the land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application, should write to the council within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Signatory: K. Harrison

Date: 20.12.2018

Tae Kwon Do team lands medal haul

CHRISTMAS came early for Team JSTKD as they collected an impressive haul of medals at the TAGB Welsh Area Championships this month.

This is a popular and well attended event in the regional Tae Kwon Do calendar with clubs from throughout south Wales participating as well as many guest clubs from further afield also vying for the top spots.

Team JSTKD had a mixture of regulars and first-timers taking part: Zak, Lucy and Joe Grinter, Menna and Harri Burmingham, Alex Munn, Rhys Doel, Harry Thomas, Alisha Roberts, Dylan Howe, Tal Skone, Sean Murphy, Grace Waters, William Yanez, Finlay Valvo, Darcy Griffin, Aimee Henessey, Brenig Preest and Phillip Jelf.

It didn't take long for the individual sparring medals to start arriving with great comeback performances from two of our Black Belts.

Following an absence due to an injury, Rhys was back in action and in fine form as he took a bronze while there was an amazing comeback of a different sort from Harri, who got knocked out (literally) in the quarter-finals but picked himself up to go on to the semi-finals where he too took a bronze.

We had more medals from two of our first-time adults in the green and yellow belts respectively with Brenig bagging a silver and Phillip taking a bronze.

Moving up a gear, we saw some outstanding performances from team members who went all the way to the finals and came away as tournament champions.

Alex Munn dominated in the Boys Red Middleweight division and similarly, Zak took control in his first time fighting as a Red Lightweight.

More Lightweight success came for Harry making a fantastic debut in the Boys Green Belts while over in the Girls Green Belts, Lucy's super fighting spirit paid dividends. Zak and Lucy's younger brother Joe also added another gold, but this time in the Boys Tag Team event.

Special mentions are deserved for our other team members who, without exception, gave their all across the other divisions including Darcy, who knocked out her opponent earlier in the rounds (Girls Black Belts) but eventually bowed out before the medal matches. There was a similar close call for a medal for Menna in the Black Belt Patterns.

The team will be taking a well-deserved break over the festive period, but are now looking forward to further tournaments in the New Year.

VW

Barrivale Bridge Club latest news

THE results for the Barrivale club night on December 11 are as follows:

The top three places: 1, Reg Dyer and Ken Hannah 58.75 per cent; 2, Denis Mottram and Hilary Morgan 57.92 per cent; 3, Mark Roderick and Peter Millar 57.50 per cent. The handicap winners were Pat Price and Allan Rees.

As always, we welcome new members at the club and a partner may be arranged if required. If you would like to join us call any of the following numbers: 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592, or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

Please note: Tuesday Club night Bridge will resume after the Christmas break on January 8.

LH

On and Off The Turf

EVAN Williams' 10-year-old chestnut mare *Still Believing,* **carrying top weight of 11 stone, 12 lbs, was a nine lengths winner of the £21,665 George Smith Horseboxes Mares' Handicap Chase at Hereford last Saturday under Mitchell Bastyan.**

A 9-1 chance, *Still Believing* has been a good servant to Williams, having also won Exeter, Chepstow, Ludlow and Uttoxeter, and has won on good to firm as well as heavy going.

On the same day at Cheltenham, Williams' grey gelding *Silver Streak* failed by one-and-three quarter lengths to catch Nicky Henderson's *Brain Power* in the Unibet International Hurdle worth £78,778 to the winner.

But for a mistake at the penultimate hurdle, the Welsh Champion Hurdle winner would probably have been a lot closer, but the obstacles are there for them to be jumped.

Earlier in the afternoon, Pembrokeshire trainer Rebecca Curtis saddled the winner of the Ryman Novices' Chase with *Drovers Lane*, who, under Sean Bowen, scored by one-and-a-half lengths from the Bryn Pauling-trained *Le Breuil*.

The Bowen brothers, Sean and James, from Pembrokeshire, have rightly come in for a lot of praise of late and another young Welsh jockey this time from south Wales who has made a name for himself is Bridgend's Connor Brace.

Last Wednesday (December 12) he had two rides at Leicester and won on both of them.

Riding for his guvnor, Gloucestershire trainer Fergal O'Brien, he won the Wigston Mares' Novices Handicap Hurdle on seven-year-old *Chilli Romance*, at seven the oldest horse in the race, and on the Philip Hobbs-trained *Dark Episode*, at four the youngest of the four runners, he took the Racing Excellence Training Series Conditionals' Novice Hurdle.

Chilli Romance came home nine lengths ahead of the Sean Bowen-partnered *Dyliev* and *Dark Episode* won by one-and-a-half lengths from *Skidoosh*. Both winners were returned at odds of 6-1.

EVAN'S 1-2

Evan Williams saddled two of the five runners in the Jim Hibbs Handicap Christmas Hurdle at Ffos Las on Monday (December 17) and they finished first and second.

First home was the top-weighted and recent winner *The Gipper* who finished eight lengths ahead of *Radical Archie* also a previous winner. *The Gipper*, who was ridden by stable jockey Adam Wedge, went off the 11-10 favourite.

Dai Rees' *Steel Native* won the ROA Racing Post Owners' Jackpot Handicap Chase finishing two lengths in front of the Evan Williams-trained *Sutter's Mill*.

Brian Lee

Barry and District Mens Skittle League

ALAN Rosser Cup: GROUP A: Royalists 284, Tynny Lads 283. Table: Barry Park B 2, Royalists 2, Tynny Lads 0, Billy Whizz 0.

GROUP B: KP Rejects 341, Cannon Balls 337. Table: Park Lads 2, KP Rejects 2, British Rail 0, Cannon Balls 0.

GROUP C: Table: H Bells 2, Alternatives 0, 49ers 0, Hairy Lemons 0.

GROUP D: Glenbrook Flyers 270, Cocoa Nuts 260. Table: Mighty Dockers 2, Glenbrook Flyers 2, Geest 0, Cocoa Nuts 0.

GROUP E: Posties 281, Abercrete 278. Table: Posties 2, Cavaliers 2, Colcot Boys 2, Abercrete 0.

GROUP F: Exiles 274, Bunker Boys 264; Sea View 268, Witchill Nomads 244; Castle Boys 272, Exiles 263. Table: Sea View 6, Castle Boys 4, Exiles 2, Witchill Nomads 0, Bunker Boys 0.

GROUP G: Witchill Poachers 243, BP Breakaways 256; Willie Wombles 262, Park Rangers 269. Table: Willie Wombles 4, Park Rangers 4, BP Breakaways 2, Witchill Poachers 0, Billy Bluebirds 0.

GROUP H: Ex Servicemen 258, Blue Monkey 306; Merrymen 293, C.U.D. 232. Table: Merrymen 6, C.U.D. 2, Blue Monkey 2, Ex Servicemen 0, Master Mariner 0.

View all results and tables at barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

Bridge players try hands at national championship

BRIDGEND Bridge Club Players did well in Welsh Bridge Union national competitions played last weekend.

In the graded masters, Rob Forman and Alan Heath won their section and also topped the whole field playing the same boards. In the top section, the graded pairs, Tony Disley and Mike Pownall were second.

The latest results for Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows.

On Wednesday, December 12: first, Tony Disley and John Evans; second, Graham Jones and Irene Thomas; third, Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner. The winners on handicap were Tony Disley and John Evans.

On Thursday, December 13 playing north/south: first, Christine and John Evans; second, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; third David Newman and Chris Rawlings.

Playing east/west: first, Mike Williams and Gareth Jenkins; second, Christine and Geoff Tinkler; third Ivor Hicks and Maggie Ashpole. The winners on handicap playing north/south were David Newman and Chris Rawlings, and playing east/west were Dilys Bowser and V Irene Thomas.

On Friday, December 14: first, Irene Wickham and Mari Jones; second, Linda Pinnock and Bill Turner; third, Tony Disley and Jenny Vaughan. The winners on handicap were Irene Wickham and Mari Jones.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton church hall. Play is scheduled to start at 7pm; to enable a prompt start it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early. On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Nolton church hall, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding.

All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

On Thursday at 1pm Steve Burgoyne will complete his series of seminars on signals and discards.

GJ

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15 15 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT 2.2 SD4 HSE 5dr Automatic (7-Seater) 4x4, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, black pack, 28k, met red, full leather **£24995**

14 64 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Limited 5dr Automatic 4x4, reverse camera, dab, grey, full leather **£18495**

LAND ROVER WARRANTY DEC 2020

17 67 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 SI4 290 Autobiography 5dr Automatic, Land Rover warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, 20"alloys, reverse camera, grey, 7k, full leather **£40995**

KIA WARRANTY AUG 2023

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T GDI GT-Line AWD 5dr, Kia warranty Aug 2023, sat nav, 19"alloys, full leather, choice **£16995**

HYUNDAI WARRANTY SEPT 2025

16 66 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRD Premium 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Sept 2021, sat nav, 18"alloys, cruise, privacy glass, 18k, black, full leather **£20995**

£165 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

BMW WARRANTYSEPT 2019

16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic 4WD, BMW warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, electric glass sunroof, 19"Alloys, reverse camera, heated seats, 18k, red **£21995**

£140 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

15 15 BMW X4 D XDRIVE XLine 4dr Automatic, sat nav, pdc, 26k, red, full leather **£21995**

£120 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

13 63 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D All4 5dr, Privacy glass, Bluetooth, aux, usb, silver **£9995**

15 65 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 4 3.0 SD V6 SE Tech 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), sat nav, 19"alloys, cruise, 30k, silver, full leather **£29995**

£165 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

AUDI WARRANTY DEC 2019

16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, heated seats, 11k, black, half-leather **£24995**

£140 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

KIA WARRANTY OCT 2024

17 67 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRD GT-Line S 5dr Automatic, Kia warranty Oct 2024, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 13k, red, full leather **£22995**

£165 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

VOLVO WARRANTY APRIL 2019

16 16 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 220 SE 5dr Automatic 4WD, Volvo warranty April 2019, sat nav, privacy glass, white, half-leather **£20995**

£165 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

VW WARRANTY JUNE 20191

16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI BlueMotionTech R 5dr 4WD (300bhp), VW warranty June 2019, xenons, cruise, 15k, choice **£20995**

£120 12 MONTHS ROAD TAX

15 65 RANGEROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 HSE Dynamic 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 20k, red, full leather **£27995**

16 66 AUDI A4 ALLROAD 3.0 TDI Quattro Sport Estate S-Tronic, Audi warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, privacy glass, 21k, white, full leather **£26995**

16 66 AUDI A7 3.0 TDI Quattro S-Line Black Edition 5dr Automatic, Audi warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, 21"alloys, 23k, bose, white, full leather **£28995**

15 15 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr S-Tronic, sat nav, pdc, Bluetooth, heated seats, red, full leather **£20995**

16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, heated seats, 11k, black, half-leather **£24995**

16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr, Audi warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, xenons, 23k, white, half-leather **£23995**

15 65 AUDI Q3 2.0 TDI Quattro S-Line Plus 5dr S-Tronic, sat nav, dab, heated seats, 33k, grey, half-leather **£20995**

14 64 AUDI Q7 3.0 TDI Quattro S-Line Plus 5dr Tiptronic (7-Seater), sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, bose sound system, 42k, grey, full leather **£28995**

17 67 BMW 225 XE PHEV Sport Active Tourer 5dr 4WD Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 4k, black **£20995**

16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic 4WD, BMW warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, electric glass sunroof, 19"Alloys, reverse camera, heated seats, 18k, red **£21995**

15 64 BMW 420 DXDRIVE M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr automatic, pro sat nav, 19"alloys, Harman kardon, full leather, 26k, met black **£19995**

16 16 BMW 420 DXDRIVE M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr automatic, 19"alloys, widescreen sat nav, 23k, met grey, full leather **£21995**

16 16 BMW X1 2.0 DXDrive M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty June 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 24k, met white **£19995**

16 16 BMW X3 30D M Sport XDRIVE 5dr automatic, BMW warranty April 2019, 19"alloys, sat nav, Bluetooth, 14k, grey **£24995**

15 15 BMW X4 D XDRIVE XLine 4dr Automatic, sat nav, pdc, 26k, red, full leather **£21995**

15 65 BMW X4 2.0 DXDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic, sat nav, 19"alloys, privacy glass, black, full leather **£20995**

16 66 FORD EDGE 2.0 TDCI 210 Titanium 5dr Powershift 4WD, Ford warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, 19"alloys, reverse camera, black **£22495**

16 66 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRD Premium 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Sept 2021, sat nav, 18"alloys, cruise, privacy glass, 18k, black, full leather **£20995**

16 16 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI BlueDrive Premium SE 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty July 2021, sat nav, pan roof, heated seats, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 21k, beige with full leather **£21495**

17 67 JAGUAR F-PACE 3.0 DV6 S AWD 5dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Jan 2021, sat nav, 20"alloys, reverse camera, 9k, black, full leather **£39995**

15 15 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.0 CRDI Limited 5dr Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, choice, full leather **£14795**

15 65 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet II 200 Limited 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 29k, choice, full leather **£16995**

17 67 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 12k, black, full leather **£23995**

14 64 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Limited 5dr Automatic 4x4, reverse camera, dab, grey, full leather **£18495**

16 16 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Summit 5dr 4x4 Automatic, Jeep warranty April 2019, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 20"alloys, met red, full leather **£23995**

16 16 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 M-Jet II Longitude 5dr 4WD, Jeep warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, pan roof, 17"alloys, blue, 22k **£13995**

18 68 KIA SORENTO 2.2 CRDI GT-Line S 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Kia warranty Sept 2025, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, only 527 miles, grey, full leather **£34995**

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T GDI GT-Line AWD 5dr, Kia warranty Aug 2023, sat nav, 19"alloys, full leather, choice **£16995**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T-GDI GT-Line 5dr Automatic AWD, Kia warranty Sept 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 24k, black, full leather **£18995**

15 65 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-3 5dr 4WD, Kia warranty Oct 2022, pan roof, reverse camera, 31k, black, full leather ... **£14295**

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-4 AWD 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, 23k, met red, full leather **£19495**

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRD GT-Line 5dr 4WD, sat nav, 19" alloys, reverse camera, heated seats, 8k, white with full leather **£18495**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRD KX-2 5dr Automatic 4WD, KIA warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 24k, silver ... **£16995**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI First Edition 5dr AWD Automatic, Kia warranty Oct 2023, pan roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 24k, white, full leather **£21495**

17 67 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRD GT-Line S 5dr Automatic, Kia warranty Oct 2024, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 13k, red, full leather **£22995**

15 65 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT 2.0 TD4 180 HSE 5dr Automatic 4x4 7-Seater, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 15k, black, full leather **£26995**

17 17 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT 2.0 TD4 SE 5dr Tech Pack Automatic (7-Seater), sat nav, 10k, black, half-leather **£27495**

15 15 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT 2.2 SD4 HSE 5dr Automatic (7-Seater) 4x4, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, black pack, 28k, met red, full leather **£24995**

15 65 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 4 3.0 SD V6 SE Tech 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), sat nav, 19"alloys, cruise, 30k, silver, full leather **£29995**

16 66 MERCEDES CLA45 2.0 AMG 4dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2019, 19"alloys, cruise, 16k, black, half-leather **£30795**

13 63 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D All4 5dr, Privacy glass, Bluetooth, aux, usb, silver **£9995**

15 15 MINI COUNTRYMAN 2.0 D Cooper Business Edition All4 5dr Automatic, sat nav, white **£13995**

14 14 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 DIG-T Nismo 5dr 4WD CVT Automatic (197bhp), sat nav, reverse camera, Bluetooth, 18"alloys, white ... **£10995**

12 62 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr AWD, pan roof, sat nav, bose, heated seats, black **£9995**

15 15 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr 4WD, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather **£12495**

15 65 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr 4WD (7-Seater), sat nav, reverse camera, green, full leather **£15995**

17 67 RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 SI4 290 Autobiography 5dr Automatic, Land Rover warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, 20"alloys, reverse camera, grey, 7k, full leather **£40995**

15 65 RANGEROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 HSE Dynamic 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 20k, red, full leather **£27995**

15 15 RANGEROVER EVOQUE 2.2 SD4 Pure 5dr 4WD Automatic, pan roof, heated seats, red, full leather **£20995**

16 66 RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 SE 5dr Automatic 4WD, Land Rover warranty Nov 2019, 18"alloys, privacy glass, heated seats, white, full leather **£24995**

16 66 RANGE ROVER VOGUE 3.0 TDV6 Vogue 4dr Automatic, Land Rover warranty Sept 2019, pan roof, sat nav, grey, full leather **£45995**

17 17 RANGE ROVER VELAR 2.0 D HSE 5dr Automatic 4x4, Land Rover warranty July 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, head up display, rear DVD, silver, full leather **£47995**

16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI BlueMotionTech R 5dr 4WD (300bhp), VW warranty June 2019, xenons, cruise, 15k, choice **£20995**

16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 5dr DSG 4WD, VW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 22k, blue **£23495**

15 65 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT Tech Match 4Motion 5dr, sat nav, 17"alloys, white **£13995**

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT SE NAV 4Motion 5dr DSG, VW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, cruise, 5k, choice **£22495**

16 16 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 220 SE 5dr Automatic 4WD, Volvo warranty April 2019, sat nav, privacy glass, white, half-leather **£20995**

14 14 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D4 181 SE Lux Nav AWD 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, black, full leather **£16495**

15 15 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 SE Lux 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, heated seats, 28k, blue, full leather **£19995**

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15 65 ABARTH 500 1.4 T-Jet 3dr, electric sunroof, 26k, black, full leather £9495

15 15 ALFA ROMEO MITO 0.9 TB TwinAir 105 QV Line 3dr, DAB, privacy glass, 20k, black, full leather £7995

15 15 AUDI A1 1.6 TDI Sport 3dr Automatic, comfort pack, cruise, pdc, dab, Bluetooth, silver £9995

15 15 AUDI A3 2.0 TDI S-Line 5dr, comfort pack, black styling pack, privacy glass, silver, half-leather £14495

16 66 AUDI A6 2.0 TDI Ultra S-Line Estate Automatic, 19"alloys, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather £19995

15 65 BMW 116 D Efficient Dynamics Plus 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, dab, choice £10995

12 12 BMW 118 D Exclusive Edition 2dr Convertible, heated seats, Bluetooth, grey, full leather £7495

15 64 BMW M135i 3.0 M Sports 5dr automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, 34k, orange, full oyster leather £17495

16 16 BMW 220i Luxury Active Tourer 5dr, BMW warranty April 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 15k, silver, full leather £16495

18 18 BMW 320 I M Sport Shadow Edition 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty April 2021, reverse camera, heated seats, sat nav, Harman kardon, 7k, blue, full leather £21995

17 67 BMW 330 2.0 E SE 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2020, sat av, 18"M sport alloys, 11k, privacy glass, choice £19995

16 66 BMW 420 I Luxury Gran Coupe 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k, white, full leather £20995

16 16 BMW 430i M Sport 2dr Automatic, M sport plus pack, 19" alloys, Harman Kardon, wide screen sat nav, met grey, full leather £21495

16 16 BMW 420 D 190 M Sport 2dr Automatic (190bhp), sat nav, heated seats, grey, full leather £17995

15 15 BMW 430D M Sport Gran Coupe automatic, M Sport Plus pack, sat nav, head-up display, 19"alloys, tanzanite blue, full leather £20995

12 62 BMW 520 DSE 4dr Automatic, BMW business sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, grey, full leather £10495

15 15 BMW 520 DSE 4dr Automatic, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather £13495

15 65 BMW 520 DM Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather £14495

15 15 BMW M5 4.4 4dr DCT Automatic, sunroof, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 34k, blue, full leather £30995

14 14 BMW 640 DM Sport 2dr Automatic, sunroof, sat nav, head up display, soft close doors, 43k, carbon black, full ivory white leather £21995

16 65 BMW 640 D M Sport Gran Coupe 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty March 2019, sat nav, 19"Alloys, 30k, black, full leather £23995

16 66 CITROEN C1 1.0 VTI Feel 5dr, Citroen warranty Oct 2019, air-con, Bluetooth, aux, usb, dab, choice £5795

14 14 CITROEN DS3 1.6 E-HDI 115 Airdream DSport 3dr, air-con, aux, cruise, 30k, white £6995

16 66 DS DS3 1.6 BlueHDI Prestige 3dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, dab, black £8495

15 15 DS DS4 1.6 BlueHDI DStyle Nav 5dr, sat nav, cruise, pdc, aux, white £7995

15 65 FIAT 500 0.9 TwinAir Vintage 57 3dr, Bluetooth, blue, full leather £6295

15 15 FIAT 500 1.2 S 3dr, air-con, Bluetooth, alloys, aux, usb, white, half-leather £5795

17 17 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, Bluetooth, PDC, 14k, choice £7295

15 65 FIAT 500X 1.6 D MultiJet Cross 5dr, 17"alloys, Bluetooth, privacy glass, 31k, red £9495

16 65 FORD ECOSPORT 1.0 EcoBoost Titanium 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, aux, blue, half-leather £8995

16 16 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost 125 ST-Line 3dr, Ford warranty August 2019, air-con, 17"alloys, privacy glass, choice £9495

18 67 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost ST-Line 3dr (New Model), Ford warranty February 2021, sat nav, 17"Alloys, Bluetooth, 8k, choice £12995

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI ST-Line 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, DAB, 16k, black £11995

15 15 FORD FOCUS 2.0 TDCI Titanium X Navigation 5dr, reverse camera, heated seats, black, half-leather £9295

15 65 FORD FOCUS 2.0 TDCI 185 ST-3 Navigation 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, blue, full leather £12995

14 64 FORD MONDEO 1.6 TDCI Eco Titanium X Business Edition Estate, sat nav, pdc front + rear, red, half-leather £8995

15 65 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Econetic Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, dab, aux, choice £9995

16 66 FORD MONDEO 1.5 TDCI Titanium Eco Estate, sat nav, grey £11995

15 65 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive SE Nav 5dr, Hyundai warranty Oct 2020, reverse camera, sat nav, grey £12495

15 65 JAGUAR XE 2.0 D 180 R-Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, dab, privacy glass, 25k, black, full leather £17495

15 65 JEEP RENEGADE 1.4 MultiAir Longitude 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, 36k, grey £9995

14 64 KIA CARENS 1.7 CRDI 3 5dr (7-Seater), Kia warranty Oct 2021, pan roof, reverse camera, 33k, silver, full leather £11995

17 66 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI ISG GT-Line S Estate Automatic, Kia warranty Feb 2024, pan roof, sat nav, reversing camera, heated seats, 15k, met red, full leather £17495

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 GDI 1 5dr, KIA warranty Sept 2023, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 21k, 13k, choice £11995

16 16 MAZDA 2 1.5 Sport Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty June 2019, sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, 28k, red £8995

13 63 MAZDA 3 1.6 Tamura 5dr, 17"alloys, 15k, met grey £6995

15 15 MAZDA 3 2.2 D Sport Nav 5dr, heated seats, sat nav, 18"alloys, black, full leather £9495

14 14 MAZDA 6 2.2 D SE-L Estate, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, pdc, blue £9795

17 17 MAZDA 6 2.2 D SE-L Nav Estate, Mazda warranty April 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, pdc, dab, aux & usb, white £13795

15 15 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 D Sport Nav 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, reverse camera, 19"alloys, red, full leather £12495

15 15 MERCEDES A180 1.6 SE 5dr, reverse camera, air-con, Bluetooth, pdc, grey £10995

16 66 MERCEDES AMG C63 4.0 Premium Estate Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2019, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 21k, black, full leather £37995

16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 Sport Estate, Mercedes warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 12k, grey, half leather £17995

16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 D AMG Line 4dr, Mercedes warranty Dec 2019, cruise, Bluetooth, 11k, white, half-leather £19995

16 16 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 4dr 9G-Tronic (New Model), sat nav, cruise, heated seats, choice, half-leather £21495

10 60 MINI COOPER 1.6 Camden 3dr, cruise, Bluetooth, 55k, silver, half-leather £5995

15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr, chilli pack, sat nav, orange, half-leather £9995

16 66 MINI COOPER 2.0 D S 5dr, Mini warranty Oct 2019, privacy glass, Bluetooth, dab 16"alloys in black, 6k, white £12995

17 17 MINI COOPER 2.0 S Seven 5dr (192bhp), Mini warranty June 2020, media pack XL, sat nav, chili pack, 8k, black £16495

15 65 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D Business Edition 5dr, sat nav, cruise, 17"alloys, 33k, white £12795

17 67 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.2 DIG-T Acenta 5dr (New Model), Nissan warranty Jan 2021, sat nav, tech pack, 5k, red £15995

16 66 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr X-Tronic 7-Seater, Nissan warranty Oct 2019, pan roof, cruise, 23k, black £16495

17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE Energy Expression + 5dr, Renault warranty Nov 2021, Bluetooth, cruise, 6k, black £10995

16 16 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Signature Nav 5dr, Renault warranty August 2020, pan roof, bose, sat nav, sat nav, 19"alloys, 25k, red, half-leather £13995

16 16 SEAT LEON 2.0 TSI Cupra 3dr, Seat warranty August 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 19"alloys, 15k, red, full leathe £16995

16 66 SKODA OCTAVIA 2.0 TDI SE-L 5dr, Skoda warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, black £11995

17 17 SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDI Laurin & Klement 5dr DSG Automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, full leather, silver £18995

16 16 SUZUKI VITARA 1.6 DDIS SZ5, Suzuki warranty Feb 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, pan roof, turquoise £11495

17 17 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 Energy Ecoflex 5dr, Vauxhall warranty April 2020, Bluetooth, cruise, 13k, grey £7995

16 16 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.6 CDTI ecoFLEX Design 5dr, Bluetooth, cruise, 28k, silver £8995

14 64 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI ECOFlex SRI VX-Line 5dr, vxr styling pack, sat nav, 19"Alloys, bose, 33k, black £10995

17 66 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI (170) EcoFlex SRI NAV Estate, Vauxhall warranty Jan 2020, sat nav, 17"alloys, blue £10995

11 11 VW BEETLE 1.4 Luna Convertible 75ps, pdc, alloys, red £4995

16 66 VW GOLF 1.0 TSI Match Bluemotion Edition 5dr, VW warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, heated seats, Bluetooth, cruise, 10k, silver £13995

15 65 VW GOLF 1.4 TSI GTE 5dr Automatic, xenons, adaptive cruise, 37k, white £15995

15 15 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech GT 5dr, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, pdc, grey £10495

16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5dr, VW warranty June 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, heated seats, black £15995

16 66 VW POLO 1.4 TSI ACT Blue GT 3dr, VW warranty Dec 2019, electric glass sunroof, Bluetooth, cruise, choice £11995

11 61 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech 3dr, Bluetooth, air-con, white £7995

16 66 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 GT TDI BLUEMOTION TECHNOLOGY 3dr, VW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 16k, white £15995

16 16 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Blue Motion Tech 5dr, VW warranty March 2019, sat nav, dab, aux, 37k, black £12995

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT SE NAV 5dr, VW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, 18"alloys, aux, usb, 9k, grey £20995

14 64 VOLVO V40 1.6 D2 R-Design 5dr, cruise, heated seats, dab, Bluetooth, choice £9495

16 66 VOLVO XC60 2.0 D4 R-Design Nav 5dr, Volvo warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 18"alloys, privacy glass, 15k, black, half-leather £20995

15 65 RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCI 90 Dynamique S Nav 5dr, sat nav, cruise, aux, red **£7995**

17 67 SEAT LEON 1.4 TSI 125 FR Technology 5dr, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 9k, choice from **£12995**

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Titanium X Estate, sat nav, 17"alloys, 29k, black, half-leather **£9995**

15 65 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 DIG-T Tekna 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather **£9795**

16 66 MINI COOPER 1.5 Cooper 5dr, pepper pack, 16"black alloys, privacy glass, orange **£10795**

17 67 FORD FIESTA 1.0 T EcoBoost Zetec 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, 7k, black **£9995**

15 65 BMW 218 GRAN TOURER I Luxury 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), sat nav, heated seats, pdc front + rear, 10k, full leather **£16795**

16 66 BMW 320 I M Sport GT 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, full black panel display, privacy glass, silver, full leather **£17995**

13 13 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, Bluetooth, alloys, 26k, blue **£4995**

15 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Tec + 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, cruise, choice **£10995**

16 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D (180) R-Sport 4dr Auto, sat nav, heated seats, choice, full leather **£19795**

16 16 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 CDTI Tech Line 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, 21k, red **£10995**

17 67 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI Elite 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, 20k, silver, full leather **£11995**

15 65 ABARTH 595 1.4 T-Jet 3dr, Bluetooth, usb, 14k, blue, full leather **£9495**

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2016 (16) AUDI RS3 2.5 TFSI SPORTBACK S TRONIC QUATTRO 5DR (NAV) 31,000 MILES, FSH, NAV, DAB, LTHR £32,790

2015 (15) BMW 1 SERIES 1.5 116D SPORT SPORTS HATCH (S/S) 5DR, JUST 43,000 MILES, BMW HISTORY £11,990

2016 (66) BMW 3 SERIES 2.0 320D LUXURY TOURING (S/S) 5DR, 1 OWNER, FBMWSH, NAVIGATION £15,990

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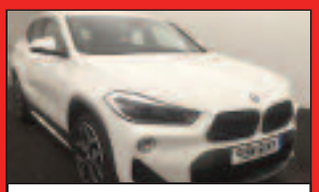
2012 (12) BMW 5 SERIES 2.0 520D BLUE PERFORMANCE M SPORT TOURING 5DR, JUST 50,000 MLS, FSH, NAV, LTHR .£13,490



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2011 (11) BMW X3 3.0 SE XDRIVE 5DR PRO NAVIGATION, XENON PDC MEDIA . . .£12,790

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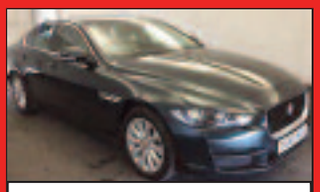
2016 (66) HYUNDAI TCSON 2.0 CRDI BLUE DRIVE PREMIUM 2WD 5DR, CAMERA NAVIGATION, HTD LEATHER £16,490



2015 (65) JAGUAR XE 2.0 TD PRESTIGE 4DR, 1 OWNER, NAVIGATION, LEATHER PDC £13,490

2016 (16) JAGUAR SE 2.0 D PORTFOLIO 4DR NAVIGATION, LEATHER, XENON, DAB £16,990

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2014 (14) LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT 3.0 SD V6 HSE 4X4 (S/S) 5DR, ALL HEATED, ONE OWNER, AUDIO BT £36,490

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2010 (10) MAZDA MX-5 2.0 SPORT TECH 2DR, JUST 29,000 MLS, FSH, 9 X STAMPS £7,990

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2015 (15) MERCEDES-BENZ E CLASS 2.1 CDI BLUETEC SE 7G-TRONIC PLUS 5DR, 34,000 MILES, NAV, HTD LEATHER, DAB . . . £15,990

2015 (15) MERCEDEZ-BENZ E CLASS 3.0 CDI BLUETEC AMG NIGHT EDITION 9G-TRONIC PLUS 5DR, ONE OWNER, FULL SERVICE HISTORY £18,790

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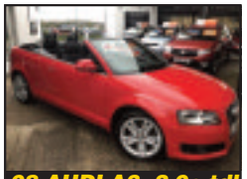

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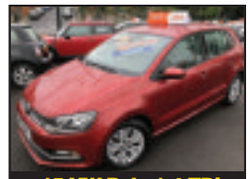

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News from On and Off The Turf...

LLANCARFAN'S Evan Williams had another long priced winner when his *Esprit Du Large* **landed the Calvet Classic Maiden Hurdle at Uttoxeter on Tuesday (December 11).**

A 12-1 chance in a field of 14 runners, *Esprit Du Large* partnered by Aidan Coleman, romped home 11 lengths ahead of the favourite the David Pipe trained *Eur Gone West.*

Welsh rider Sean Bowen riding his father Peter's top-weighted *Cougar's Gold* was an eight lengths winner of the At UttoxeterWit Handicap Chase.

CONNOR'S LEICESTER DOUBLE

CONNOR Brace had two rides at Leicester on Wednesday (December 12) and won with both of them.

Connor, 17, grandson of owner/trainer and breeder David Brace OBE of the Dunraven Stud in Pyle, landed the mares' novices hurdle on Fergal O'Brien's *Chili Romance* and the conditionals novices' hurdle on the Peter Hobbs-trained *Dark Episode*. Both horses were returned at odds of 6-1.

BYRON HOPING FOR FFOS LAS SUCCESS

COWBRIDGE'S Byron Moorcroft will be in action at next Sunday's (December 22) re-arranged Carmarthenshire Hunt Point-To-Point at Ffos Las Racecourse.

The new west Wales area public relations officer Steph Rogers writes: "The entries for the first of the west Wales meetings are high in both quantity and quality in what promises to be a fantastic day's racing.

"There are plenty of English raiders among those entered with *Sego Success* hoping to make a success of either The Timico Mixed Open or the CHC Conditions Race for Philip Rowley and Alex Edwards, along with *Arthur's Secret* and Robert Luke's former Grade 2 Cheltenham winner *Ordo Ab Chao* among the highly rated horses, who if all line up could make for a very high-class race.

"*All Great N Theory* is entered in the Conditions race and will surely relish the soft ground but could face tough competition from the likes of the Alan Hill trained Hawkhurst and *Thegirlfrommilan*.

"The Mares and Fillies Maiden could see *Double Miss* improve on her third place finish at Howick and Tom Ellis' *Jemma's Gift* could go one better than her last run at Barbury in November under Ladies' Champion Gina Andrews, who celebrated riding her 200th point to point winner last weekend at Cottenham.

"Of the 21 entered in the Open Maiden, Michael Bowen's *Hidden Cargo* looks the one to watch but Thomas Faulkner's reign of success could well continue with *Dino Boy,* the French bred gelding who was second on his debut last year.

"The Warwickshire raiders are out in force in this race with the Fred Hutsby trained *Howld Your Whistle* and *Destination Gold* making his racecourse debut, Tom Ellis has *Only A Tipple* and Francesca Nimmo's *Courtandbould* cannot be ignored giving the trainer's excellent strike rate in maidens."

The first race gets underway at 11.30am.

BIG ANNUAL 2018

JOHN Beasley's Big Annual 2018 is now available and this unique A4 hardback book captures as usual the atmosphere and excitement of racing between-the-flags in Great Britain.

The Vale's Andrew Quick has been granted two pages in which he recalls the highs and lows of his season.

Yours truly, who was interviewed by Beasley, and who has been reporting on the Welsh scene for the national and local press for more than half-a-century, recalls how he started his journalistic career by writing letters to magazines and newspapers.

Bridgend's Connor Brace, who has had a dream start to his race riding career as a professional jockey, is just one of the Welsh riders along with the Vale's Charlie Price, Jack Tudor and Byron Moorcroft who figure among the 192 pages of this truly remarkable book.

There's a scenic scene of the Ystradowen track and it is sad to think that no longer will racing be taking place on this truly unique track that attracted thousands of racegoers over the years.

Also included are some cracking pictures taken at picturesque Lower Machen and, if the rumours are true that this year will be the last time that racing will be staged at this delightful track, then this would be a great loss to point-to-pointing in Wales.

For more information on the book call 01202 309489. **Brian Lee**

School's cross country team are Welsh champions!

IN November, the Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg cross country team for years 9 and 10 became Welsh Champions.

The team competed at the Welsh Schools Athletics in Aberhonddu. In the competition, all the girls had to run a distance of 3.6km each and their times were combined as it was a team sport. Moli Lyons, Gwenno Goode, Manon Pearce and Libby McKinney were awarded a gold medal.

In the race, Moli Lyons of year 10 became the Individual Welsh Champion. Of the experience she said: "It felt great, and was unexpected. I always enjoy running, and train almost every day. However, I did not expect to become a Welsh Champion and take home the gold medal!"

Another member of the team, Gwenno Goode, came third in the competition even though she is in year 9; therefore Gwenno competed against girls who are a year older than her. She said: "I was very nervous beforehand, and never imagined that I would come even close to third place!" Gwenno hopes to compete again next year, when she will be older in the category.

Moli, who has experienced several successes in the past, dreams of representing her country one day at the Olympic Games. The team said this experience has encouraged them to carry on competing. Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg has a successful Welsh Schools Athletics competition as the year 11 girls came second and the years 9 and 10 boys and years 7 and 8 girls came third.

Mr Beynon, PE teacher said: "I'm overwhelmed with their success, but they have worked very hard for this." As well as training with clubs, the teams train every morning before school in the extra-curricular running club. We all wish them pob lwc in the future!

Miss Heledd Lewis

Six of the best sees Vets into semi-finals

THIS convincing 6-0 Wales Veterans Over-50s Cup win by the Barry Vets FC saw them breeze into the semi-finals.

In their best team performance of the season, they dominated every facet of the game at Leckwith. In front of commanding gloveman Harding, Hill, Staddon, Averies and Stait were consummate while the midfield of Huish, Price, James and Dupuy were physical, determined and creative.

Up front White and Bobbett proved a handful for the opposition rearguard and it was the latter who opened the scoring, nimbly rounding Llantrisant keeper Rob Dunn to slot home. Dupuy took the hosts into a 2-0 lead at half-time with a sumptuous lob.

After the interval, Barry continued to control matters and extended their lead when Bobbett scored his second and then completed his hat-trick to take the man-of-the-match honours – a huge achievement for a player approaching his 61st birthday!

White scored with an unstoppable header and Price concluded the scoring with a 30 metre dribble and shot.

ABOVE: Mike Bobbett.

The scoreline could have been greater but for the heroics of Llantrisant keeper Dunn who denied Rutherford, Huish and Wills late on.

Player/manager Jimmy Blackie was delighted with the win commenting: "With this level of performance we can look forward to the semi-final against Cwmbran on February 3 with real confidence, but before then we have the over-50s league and the over-55s league and cup to contend with." For more information on the club, visit clubwebsite.co.uk/barryvetsfc/Home.

AH

More wet weather for golfing seniors

THE prolonged wet weather and soggy fairways and greens led St Mary's Golf Club's senior section to limit their first competition of the week to just 12 holes.

In a light but persistent drizzle, 27 of their number teed off in a Yellow Ball Stableford competition for teams of three.

The 'yellow ball' designation alternated between team members hole by hole and that player's score and the better of the other two were recorded.

The team of Eddie Fothergill, Ray Stacey and Andrew Lane claimed the victory with a net score of 53 points, five better than the equivalent par of 48 for two scores counting over 12 holes.

For their second competition of the week, the course had significantly dried but a short field of just 17 players braved a bitingly cold wind to tee off in yet another team competition.

Played in a stroke play scramble format, the event was once again limited to 12 holes by popular choice because of the frigid conditions.

Against a par of 45 over the 12 holes, the four-ball team of Bryant Thomas, Trefor Jones, Owen Maund and Phil Banks headed the leaderboard with an impressive net score of 39.

NL

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest? Then get in touch with us - email sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Seaview Lads' Christmas competition

ON December 9, the lads held the first leg of their Christmas competition when high winds did not deter the regulars from turning up.

Although catches were not massive almost all weighed in, but sadly not a cod or whiting was landed. Dogfish, slugs and eels came to the scales and Steve Doble was squeezed into third place by regular top angler Paul Crook and crack matchman Roger Green.

Paul had a conger eel and pouting in his winning weight and Roger was close behind with a catch that included a good eel, while Steve's bag included the largest dogfish on the day which also won him the species pool.

In addition to top points in this leg of the competition, Paul won the Wyndham Page trophy – at least he would have done, if anybody knew where it was!

December 16 is the second leg of the Christmas competition and will be fished over high water. In addition to the glory, the Eddie Frost trophy will be awarded to the winner on the day. For more details, come along to the Thursday meeting.

New members are welcome to apply to join the Seaview Lads and novices and experienced anglers are welcome. We fish weekly along the local shoreline and also have a healthy boat fishing section. Members also enjoy a busy social calendar, including fishing breaks across the UK and further afield, from the Canaries to the Arctic Circle.

To find out more, text Steve on 07870193331.

Results: First, A Harris, 8lb 11oz; second, R Green, 7lb 5oz; third,S Doble, 6lb 3oz.

Bridge results

THE results for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for December 10 are as follows:

1st Glyn Williams and Vid a Halford 61.01 per cent; 2nd Christine Richmond and Hilary Morgan 60.12 per cent, and 3rd Irene Thomas and Graham Jones 57.44 per cent.

LE

Dinas Powys Golf Club's ladies section results

ON November 23, we had our presentation night and our ladies club champion for 2018, Mrs Lisa Ryley, was presented with her trophy and a voucher.

Samantha Saunders won the Bronze Championship and golfer of the year was jointly won by Ruth Yates and Sue Bridle; nine hole golfer of the year was Dorothy Amery.

On November 6, Turkey Trot Two, a 9 hole Stableford was held:- 1st Audrey Harwood 18 pts, 2nd Ruth Yates 17 pts, 3rd Terry Unwin 16 pts.

On November 13, Turkey Trot Three, a nine hole Medal: 1st Ann Mahenthiralingam 41-6.5=34.5 nett, 2nd Ruth Yates 47-11.5=35.5, 3rd Maxine Hird 46-10.5=35.5.

On November 20, Turkey Trot 4, a nine hole Stableford: 1st Ruth Yates 19 pts, 2nd Sam Saunders 18 pts, 3rd Maxine Hird 18 pts.

On December 4, a successful Mulled Wine Turkey Trot Six, a nine hole Stableford, was held: 1st Samantha Saunders 19 pts, 2nd Rhian Thomas 18 pts, 3rd Maxine Hird 15 pts on back three from Annie Blackburn. Visitors Results: 1st Rita Howells 21 pts, 2nd Gil Evans 20 pts, 3rd Alison Greig 19pts on back six from Kath Hobbs 19 pts.

Nearest the Pin on 18th hole was Maria Woods. We were so pleased that everyone enjoyed the golf and the mulled wine and mince pies.

On December 11, a nine hole Texas Scramble: 1st Ann Mahenthiralingam, Sian Smith, Annie Blackburn 37-4.33=32.67, 2nd Sue Bridle, Samantha Saunders, Maxine Hird 38-4.92=33.08, 3rd Ruth Yates, Audrey Harwood 42-6.13=35.87.

Eclectic Results from October 16 to December 4: 1st Lisa Ryley 34-3.75=30.25, 2nd Maxine Hird 37-5.25=31.75, 3rd Samantha Saunders 38-5.25=32.75.

Congratulations to all ladies and a big thank you to Annie Blackburn who has just retired from the office of Competitions Secretary after nine years and can look forward to just playing golf!

RY

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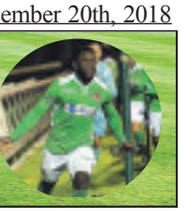

Cowbridge RFC hang on for a draw in poor conditions

THE Doors' Riders on the Storm would have been an appropriate soundtrack as Cowbridge firsts played their first game after five weeks of in action - and what a game it was.

At 10am the pitch was perfectly playable despite the overnight rain. Then, after a deluge for a few hours it was doubtful that the game would be played.

However,the referee inspected the pitch and concluded he was happy for the game to go ahead but would leave the final decision to the captains/coaches.

With three games already outstanding and Gwernyfed travelling from beyond Brecon it was agreed to go ahead.

Having won convincingly on a sunny day in September, Cowbridge would have expected the same again but with the conditions and a much-different visiting side this was not the case.

This report might be a bit short on detail because as the rain continued to pour, it became difficult to take notes as well as watch the game. Adding to the confusion was the fact that the visitors' colours are almost the same as Cowbridge, who had to wear the alternative red shirts.

Gwernyfed kicked off and were soon on the scoreboard with a penalty after two minutes. After further initial pressure from Gwernyfed a good break from centre Huw Lougher, followed by a fine kick by No 10 Gareth Williams-Davies took Cowbridge into the 22, but the visit was short-lived as the ensuing scrum was lost.

This panned out to be the pattern of the game as Cowbridge attacked with the ball in hand at every opportunity while the powerful visitors' pack dominated the scrums throughout much of the game.

Still, after a period of pressure from Cowbridge, a penalty was slotted over by full back Josh Thomas.

The boys continued to attack and a powerful drive by Craig Boxall (happy 21st birthday!) and Lewys Hopkins resulted in a penalty to the corner.

Despite a great lineout take by captain Ross Gibbon, Cowbridge were soon on the back foot as Gwernyfed drove forward.

Then a superb rip by Hywel Williams and a clever kick by Josh Thomas took Cowbridge into the 22 for a scrum which was unfortunately lost.

The second half very much mirrored the first with Cowbridge getting into good attacking areas but struggling in the scrum.

Gwernyfed took the lead after 14 minutes of the second half and Josh levelled after 30 minutes with a second penalty and then it was very much pressure from the visitors at the end, but defending from the boys kept them out and much to the relief of everyone the final whistle went.

This was a match that Cowbridge could easily have lost against a much-improved Gwernyfed side, particularly the pack with the conditions suiting them.

It was to Cowbridge's great credit that they battled to the bitter end.

Cowbridge seconds travelled to Llantwit Major and, despite the appalling weather, to their credit, both sides looked to play running rugby in an entertaining game.

Cowbridge opened the scoring when a good break through the middle took play deep into the home 22.

The ball was recycled left and Geraint Thomas hit a good angle to beat a couple of defenders and cross for a try, neatly converted by Dewi Edwards.

Cowbridge continued to attack at every opportunity and a long arcing run by Ollie Ladbrooke was thwarted five metres out with a fantastic cover tackle.

Good work by the pack regained possession and the ball was moved swiftly along the back line for a try out wide for 12-0 at half-time.

The home side enjoyed some good possession in the second half but with the weather deteriorating, and some excellent defensive work by Cowbridge, led by Steve Birchenough and Paul Roblin, they could not convert this into points despite coming very close on a couple of occasions.

James Bassett was shown a yellow card leaving Cowbridge a man down.

A couple of injuries were sustained and Cowbridge were again stretched a few times but their defence held up and it was Cowbridge who almost scored again with another outstanding break by Ladbrooke, taking play to within a few metres. However Llantwit again recovered crucial possession to clear their lines and there were no further scores, with the match ending at 12-0 for Cowbridge to record their first double of the season.

Our thanks to Llantwit Major RFC for the fixture, played again in excellent spirit, and for their superb hospitality after.

That's it until after Christmas when it's Pontyclun away on December 29, followed by Treharris at home on January 5. Despite the draw the firsts are still on top of the league despite second-place Fairwater winning - long may it continue.

Finally a Happy Christmas and New Year to everyone and many thanks to The GEM for their continued support and coverage.

RV/GT/RK

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON Tuesday, December 11 a full programme of league matches in the Cowbridge Darts League was completed.

The Highwayman Inn defeated the league leaders, the Edmondes, B 5-4, the Victoria Inn beat the Red Lion Inn 8-1 and the Edmondes C beat the One Town Hall Square 5-4.

The Edmondes A, after taking a commanding 4-2 lead at the end of the singles, were pulled back to 4-4 when the Hairy Farmers won the first two doubles matches, but by winning the finals doubles match ensured that the Edmondes A eventually won 5-4.

In the other match the Farmers Arms were scheduled to play Llanharry. Unfortunately Llanharry had transport problems so the Farmers Arms were awarded the win 9-0.

Present league standings, after nine weeks, are: Edmondes B (61 points), Highwayman Inn (49), Farmers Arms (44), Edmondes A (42), Llanharry and Victoria Inn (39), Hairy Farmers (38), One Town Hall Square (26), Edmondes C (22) and Red Lion Inn (9).

There are no games next week (Tuesday, December 25) - play will resume on January 8 with a full programme of league matches.

The Edmondes A hosts the One Town Hall Square, the Edmondes C hosts the Red Lion Inn, Llanharry hosts the Highwayman Inn and the Victoria Inn hosts the Farmers Arms. In the other match the Hairy Farmers hosts the Edmondes B.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are always welcome. For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Judo Ben celebrates a successful sporting year

BEN Moore, who is a year-9 pupil at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, has had a busy year of sport, competing across the UK and Europe in judo.

The season started in September with the Welsh Open in Cardiff where, after a very tough event at under-15s, Ben managed to secure gold in the U55kg group.

Ben then travelled over to the Hague in the Netherlands the following weekend to compete in the Adidas international competition, where, after fighting some very experienced competitors, Ben managed to gain a bronze medal in a very large group.

Going into November Ben took on the best judoka in Wales to become Welsh national champion, winning the Welsh Closed Judo Championships in Pembrokeshire.

This proved to be excellent preparation for the British Championships in Sheffield in December, where Ben fought the best fighters in the UK, including some very tough opposition from Scotland.

He battled through to become British National champion at U55kg - a fantastic achievement and a great end to a very successful year in the sport. **FM**

Llantwit Major AFC slip to defeat against league leaders Penybont

LLANTWIT Major AFC travelled to nearest rivals Penybont, the league leaders, for this return league fixture, having drawn 0-0 at home to them in August. On a very blustery day and with persistent rain, Llantwit were immediately up against it from the kick-off, playing against the wind.

After only six minutes Jack Lansdown in the Llantwit goal was called upon to make a very good save when the Penybont left wing cut in and shot from around 20 yards out.

Penybont put the Llantwit defence under constant pressure and Llantwit were finding it difficult to find any rhythm to their play. Lansdown was the busier of the two goalkeepers and he had to make another fine save when the Penybont striker broke through on goal in the 14th minute, only to be denied from scoring as Jack pushed his shot away for a corner.

It was not until the 30th minute that Llantwit, against the run of play, had a golden opportunity to score when, from a fine strike by defender Darren Robinson from around 35 yards out, his shot caused problems for the Penybont keeper Rhys Wilson when he just managed to push the ball away off his far post to Llantwit striker Ben Cripps, who was following up the shot but could not put the rebound in, with the keeper stranded on his goal line.

Penybont immediately responded and Lansdowne was called upon once again to make a very good save when the Penybont striker was put through on goal and a few minutes later Llantwit were again lucky not to concede when a deflected shot struck the crossbar.

Just before half-time Llantwit midfielder Jonathan Butler was unlucky not to score when his shot from around 35 yards out went just over the bar with the Penybont keeper beaten.

Half-time arrived with Llantwit managing not to concede despite all the pressure that they were put under by Penybont.

Llantwit, with the wind behind them, managed to apply some early pressure in the opening 10 minutes of the second half and a shot from Nathan Jones was pushed away by Rhys Wilson in the Penybont goal for a corner.

However, Llantwit's pressure was short-lived and it was Penybont again who were on the attack when, from a free kick awarded to them just outside the Llantwit goal area, luckily for Llantwit the shot was deflected safely into Lansdown's hands.

The Llantwit manager Karl Lewis tried to change things by making substitutions but it was Penybont who were having the majority of the play and in the 75th minute they finally managed to score.

A cross into the Llantwit goal area was not dealt with effectively by defender Darren Robinson, and the substitute striker for Penybont, Marcus Griffiths, nipped in and took full advantage of the error to head home.

A few minutes later Penybont should have increased their lead when the Penybont striker was put through on goal, but again Lansdown pulled off another fine save.

Llantwit tried to respond and level the scores but despite two late efforts from shots by Rob Jones and Lee Jones, they went down to defeat against a very good Penybont side who overall had the majority of the play in terms of possession and chances.

Llantwit's next League game will be away to Goytre United on Saturday, December 29, with a 2pm kick off.

Llantwit Major: Jack Lansdown, Jonathan Fletcher, Darren Robinson, (c), Sean Williams, Jamie Miller, Kristian Smith, (Lee Jones 55) Jonathan Butler, Nathan Jones, Ben Cripps, Josh Jones (Rob Jones 79), Anthony Rawlings (Dale Stephenson 70). Substitutes not used: Glyn Davies, Mike Hartley.

DJ

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